THE

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OR

EDINBURGH AMUSEMENT.

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On the IMPROVEMENT *of the* HIGHLANDS. [P. 38.]

LETTER IX.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IT would ſeem that the Creator of this univerſe, with a view to promote that friendly intercourſe between different nations on this globe, which tends ſo much to civilize mankind, and to improve uſeful knowledge, had denied to every nation *ſome* of the principal conveniencies of life that he had beſtowed upon others, which might ſerve, not only as a ſpur to the inventive faculty, but alſo as a bond of union between different communities. Thus we learn from antient records, that Italy, which has long poſſeſſed, in the greateſt perfection, all the fruits that are known in temperate climates, was originally unacquainted with many of the moſt valuable kinds. Lucullus firſt brought cherries from Pontus, and planted them in his garden at Rome, in which country they have ever ſince flouriſhed in as great perfection as in their native climate; and in like manner had been introduced at different times, the pear from Epirus *, the peach from Carthage †, the apricot from Armenia ‡, the quince from Syria §, as their names ſufficiently ſhow; from whence they were tranſported by the Romans into all thoſe countries that came under their dominion, and were by that means introduced into the weſtern and northern countries of Europe, where many of them flouriſh as well as if they had been natives of the country: and, although the orange is now ſo plenty in Portugal, yet the tree which afforded the ſeeds from which the firſt of theſe were reared is perhaps ſtill alive in China; and were it not for the name of *China oranges*, which they ſtill retain, it is probable that in a ſhort time the natives might imagine them to be indigenous of their own country. Numberleſs other examples, were it neceſſary, might be brought to prove that many countries, whoſe ſoil and climate are well adapted for producing certain uſeful plants, have

* *Malus Epyrus, or Pyrus.*
† *Malus Punica.*
‡ *Malus Armeniaca.*
§ *Malus Cydonia.*

not had these originally produced in them. But it is imagined the above will be sufficient for this purpose.

The same might be said with regard to animals, which seem to have been accidentally placed at first in climates and countries not better adapted to their temperament and constitution than others which were not possessed of them, as an incitement to the industry and application of man. We might mention with this view the European animals that have been introduced into our settlements in America, Asia, and Africa, and some of those which have been transported from thence, and naturalized with us in Europe; but I rather chuse to exemplify this by the history of the most delicate useful animal that has been reared by man, the silk worm, as it affords the most striking proof of what may be atchieved by human industry and application. Before the time of Tiberius Cæsar it was imagined that Persia was the only place where this delicate insect could be reared; and the cloth wove of its web could only be procured by princes, and the chief magistrates of kingdoms; but the luxury of the Roman court offering such a temptation to adventurers, about the time of Augustus and Tiberius, some daring genius ventured to transport the eggs into Greece, where they were found to thrive very well, and were from thence quickly spread to the neighbouring countries of Asia Minor and Italy; from whence they were in time introduced into Spain; and France, which now derives a considerable commerce from this article, owes it intirely to the enterprising spirit of Henry IV. who, contrary to the opinion and advice of the sagacious Sully, persisted in his resolution of having the experiment fairly tried, which succeeded, in all probability, beyond his most sanguine expectations. Nor is it at all certain but that the next century may see them upon the borders of the Baltic, as the king of Prussia is said to have lately tried the experiment with success. But, however that may be, we have from this example a most satisfactory proof that animals, even of the most delicate sort, may be successfully reared in countries far distant from that in which they were originally found, and under climates considerably different from them.

In the time of Tiberius Cæsar, it was no doubt deemed a bold thought, and a very hazardous undertaking to attempt to rear this animal in Greece; but the man would have been looked upon as altogether mad who had proposed to carry them to the northern region of Gaul; and yet future experience has sufficiently showed, that, had his experiment been conducted with the necessary skill and caution, it would have happily succeeded. How much less venturous is it then in us to think, that, by proper attention and skill, as fine wool could be raised in the Highlands of Scotland as on the Asturias of Spain, or the frozen mountains of Thibet? From the minute investigation that has been made with regard to this subject in the preceding parts of this essay, it does not appear that there are *any* reason to make us dread the success of any fair trial that might be made. But reasoning alone is not sufficient to give to Scotland the blessings that would accrue to it, were this the case; and, without an active exertion in those who are peculiarly interested in the prosperity of the country, and in a sphere of life sufficiently elevated to give spirit to any great undertaking, we may still, like Tantalus, languish under a heavy load of poverty and distress, although the remedy to all our ills be constantly within our view, unless some one who has power to do it will put it within our reach. As a private individual, I have endeavoured to perform my part to assist such an undertaking; and although I am sensible that many will be disposed to think that every proposal for making such a capital improvement as this would be to the country, is chimerical, merely because it is very great, yet the examples above enumerated sufficiently prove, that this argument, unless when supported by reasoning, is intirely unworthy of being attended to. On these accounts I have ventured to give my opinion freely upon this subject, with the reasons on which it is founded, and leave others to judge for themselves whether it merits any farther attention or not.

England has long enjoyed the woolen manufactory intirely unrivalled by the Scots, although our country is, almost in every respect, better adapted to it than theirs is; for, as running water is indispensibly necessary for many parts of that manufacture, a country which abounds with mountains and living rills, is, beyond all doubt, more peculiarly calcula-

ted for that than one which is more level: and I leave any one, who has ſeen the limpid, rapid rivulets in Scotland, to compare them with the muddy, dead waters in England, and tell on which ſide the balance falls. It is merely on account of the mountains and running waters that theſe produce, that the pariſh of Halifax in Yorkſhire has of late flouriſhed ſo much in the woolen manufacture, while, in many other places *, on account of the want of this convenience, the manufactures have declined ever ſince other European powers have come into competition with us, and reduced the prices. As many of your readers may be ignorant of the vaſt importance of this circumſtance to the woolen manufacture, I ſhall tranſcribe a paſſage or two from a ſenſible writer upon this ſubject.

"In the courſe of our road (ſays he) among the houſes (this was on the mountains of Blackſtone edge, in the pariſh of Halifax), we found at every one of them a little rill or gutter of running water. If the houſe was above the road, it came from it, and croſſed the way to run to another. If the houſe was below us, it croſſed us from ſome other diſtant houſe above it, and at every conſiderable houſe was a manufactury, *which not being able to be carried on without running water*, theſe little ſtreams were ſo parted and guided by gutters and pipes, that not one of the houſes wanted its neceſſary appendage of a rivulet.

"Again, as the dying houſes, ſcouring ſhops, and places where they uſe this water, emit it tinged with the drugs of the dying-vat, and with the oil, the ſoap, the tallow, and other ingredients, uſed by the clothiers in dreſſing and ſcouring, &c. the lands through which it paſſes, which otherwiſe would be exceedingly barren, are enriched by it to a degree beyond imagination.

"Then, as every clothier muſt neceſſarily keep one horſe at leaſt, to fetch home his wool and his proviſions from the market, &c. ſo every one generally keeps a cow or two for his family. By this means the ſmall pieces of incloſed land about each houſe are occupied; and, by being thus fed, are ſtill farther improved from the dung of the cattle. As for corn they ſcarce ſow enough to feed their cocks and hens."——Tour through Britain, Vol. iii. P. 137.

In conſequence of theſe advantages, the inhabitants have increaſed their manufacture of late to an amazing degree, and with it the number of inhabitants have alſo increaſed.—From the ſame writer we learn, that, "in the year 1443, there were only thirty houſes in the pariſh of Halifax; but in the next century it was much increaſed; for hiſtory tells us, that queen Elizabeth being petitioned by the inhabitants of Halifax, to grant them ſome privileges, they ſet forth, as an inſtance of their loyalty, that no leſs than 12,000 young men went out armed from this one pariſh, and, at her majeſty's call, joined her troops to fight the Popiſh army, then in rebellion under the earl of Weſtmoreland.

"If then (continues he) they were then ſo populous, what muſt they be now (*anno* 1746 or 1748)? their trade is ſo vaſtly enlarged by the great demand of Kerſeys for cloathing the armies abroad. Some maintain that it is increaſed a fourth at leaſt within theſe fifty years; and of late years it is ſtill more increaſed by the people of a neighbouring part driving away about 2000 freſh manufacturers, who, with about 2000 others accompanying them, ſettled there:" and, as the manufactures in that place have increaſed nearly one half ſince that period †, we may form ſome faint idea of the populouſneſs of that pariſh at this time, which I omit to compute, as it would appear incredibly large. This ſingle pariſh, however, was ſo much increaſed in the year 1748, that it then contained twelve or thirteen chapels of eaſe, beſides about ſixteen meeting-houſes for different ſects of religion; ſo that our author might well exclaim,

* *Particularly Colcheſter in Eſſex.*

† Mr Arthur Young, in his Eaſtern Tour, Vol. I. P. 403, has given us a table of the manufacture of the Weſt-Riding of Yorkſhire from 1725 to 1770 inclusive, by which it appears, that in that diſtrict was manufactured in the year

	Broads.	Narrows.
1748 of cloths	60765	68080
1770 - - -	93074	85376
Difference -	32309	17296

which is not much ſhort of the half of the whole manufactured in 1748; and as I ſuppoſe that Halifax increaſed in the ſame proportion as other parts of the diſtrict, I have from thence aſſumed the poſition in the text.

"As the vicarage is thus far extended, and ſo populous, what muſt the market be which ſupplies this vaſt number of inhabitants? and yet theſe are all brought from other parts of the country; for as to corn they ſow little, and they feed very few oxen or ſheep; and, as they are ſurrounded with large manufacturing towns on every ſide, all of them employed, like themſelves, in the clothing trade, they muſt neceſſarily have their proviſions from other more diſtant parts."

"The conſequence then is plain: their corn comes up in great quantities from *Lincoln* and *Nottinghamſhire*, and the *Eaſt Riding*: the black cattle from thence, and from *Lancaſhire*; ſheep and mutton from the adjacent counties every way; butter from the *Eaſt* and *North Ridings*; and cheeſe out of *Cheſhire* and *Warwickſhire*.

"Thus one trading manufacturing part of the country, in a barren ſoil, gives and receives ſupport from all the counties round it."

I hope your readers will excuſe theſe long quotations, as they clearly point out what are the principal circumſtances moſt neceſſary for contributing to the flouriſhing of the woolen manufacture; and it will readily occur, that many places in the Weſt Highlands, within reach of the ſea, poſſeſs theſe requiſite advantages in as high a degree as the mountains in Yorkſhire ‡, and are ſubjected to fewer inconveniencies; for, beſides mutton and beef which they might have at their doors at a moderate price, they would likewiſe have the advantage of fiſh in abundance of the beſt kinds, which might be caught with the utmoſt facility at all ſeaſons of the year, were there a proper market for them §. They might likewiſe be ſupplied with proviſions of all kinds from Ireland, and the weſtern counties of England, at a moderate price, and would have a more ready vent for their manufactured goods without any land carriage, as they could at once ſhip them, by a commodious navigation, either for the Weſt-Indies or the Levant, at a much ſmaller expence than from the eaſt coaſt, and with almoſt equal facility to the Baltic; and, if they had wool of a fine quality at their hand, by which they would ſave the expenſive land carriage that the manufacturers above mentioned muſt ſubmit to, added to the high value of money and conſequent cheapneſs of labour in the north of Scotland, I think it is not to be doubted but that, with theſe advantages, they would, in a ſhort time, be able to vie with any other manufacturers whatever, and in conſequence thereof be enabled to open other branches of trade, which they can hardly attempt at preſent; particularly their fiſhings, which can never be proſecuted with advantage till the natives of the country in the neighbourhood of the beſt fiſhing ſeas are rendered comfortable in their circumſtances, and independent.

I obſerve that ſome attempts have of late been made in ſome parts of this country to introduce the wolen manufacture, by certain gentlemen entering into particular engagements, not to wear any cloth but of the manufacture of Scotland. I moſt ſincerely wiſh, that their well meant attempts may meet with all the ſucceſs that they hope for, although I am much afraid, that unleſs ſome other more effectual method is taken, it will produce but little effect: For unleſs the Scots manufacturer ſhall find

‡ It is to be obſerved, that abundance of fewel is alſo another requiſite of great importance in the woolen manufacture, in which reſpect the Weſt Highlands is as well accommodated as moſt countries, as they have almoſt every where abundance of peat; and, as I am credibly informed, coal likewiſe has been diſcovered, although it is not worked, on account of the badneſs of the roads, and the little demand that is for it at preſent. On the coaſt they could be ſupplied with this article, if neceſſary, at a moderate price from Whitehaven, &c.

§ Many gentlemen from the Weſt Highlands, have complained to me of the indolence of their Fishermen, who cannot, as they allledge, be prevailed with to apply with diligence to fiſhing, although there are immenſe numbers of the fineſt white fiſh on their coaſt; and have ſometimes propoſed to carry fiſhers from the eaſt coaſt to inſtruct their own, and ſet them a good example. But unleſs they firſt find a certain market for them when they are caught, every effort of this kind muſt be in vain; as the moſt induſtrious will become indolent when his labour does not meet with the proper return. It is this which they at preſent want; and to a ſimilar cauſe muſt we in a great meaſure aſcribe the general indolence complained of in the people in the Highlands. Remove then the cauſe, and the effect will ceaſe. We do not find that there were more hardy or active ſoldiers in the late war, than the Highland regiments.

himſelf poſſeſſed of certain advantages, either with regard to the price of his materials, the happy ſituation of the place where the manufacture is carried on, or the lowneſs of the price of labour, which ſhall be ſufficient to counterbalance the extraordinary expence that muſt attend every infant manufacture; or unleſs it be ſupported for ſome time by the munificence of ſome public ſpirited perſons, it is not to be doubted, but that the infant manufacturer will not be able to afford his goods as good and cheap as others who may be his rivals. And if this be the caſe, as the patriotic zeal of individuals uſually abates after a ſhort time, they ſeldom chuſe to ſacrifice their own intereſt or convenience to the public good, longer than the patriotic fervor is upon them; ſo that, as far as has occurred to me, ſuch aſſociations are but little to be depended on in general, unleſs it be to introduce a manufacture that is intrinſically as good and cheap, as that which it is intended to ſupply the place of. But as Scotland in its preſent ſituation, enjoys no advantages over England, with regard to the woolen manufacture, on its preſent footing; but, on the contrary, labours under many diſadvantages; particularly with regard to the price of wool, which muſt all be brought from England at a conſiderable expence of carriage, factorage, &c. I hardly think that there can be any proſpect of ſelling our manufactures, under theſe diſcouragements, at the ſame price with our neighbours. And if we cannot do that, it is altogether in vain, ever to attempt to force a woolen manufacture among us. We ought therefore to begin, by following ſuch plans, as may enable the manufacturer to ſell his goods as cheap as others, and then encourage him by helping to conſume his manufactures.

The firſt ſtep then, is to procure abundance of good wool of our own, and then to manufacture that into ſuch cloth as it will admit of. Perhaps it would be moſt prudent at firſt, to attempt to make good middle-priced cloth of our own wool, for which there always muſt be a great demand; rather than at once, attempt the very fineſt ſort, in manufacturing of which greater dexterity muſt be required; which would be more eaſily attained, after we were well acquainted with that of ordinary cloth. But whatever plan ſhall be followed, I think it demonſtrably certain, that till we have wool of our own produce, ſufficient to ſupply our manufacturer, it will always be in vain to hope to eſtabliſh an extenſive woolen manufacture in the country. Our chief efforts, therefore, ought to be directed towards this point, if we ſeriouſly wiſh to ſee this manufacture flouriſh in Scotland. Yours, &c.

AGRICOLA.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

I COULD not help being greatly affected, the Sunday before laſt, on ſeeing the unhappy convict who lately received ſentence of death, enter the church. The ſolemnity of his entry, joined to that degree of contrition and devotion, which, to my view, were truly delineated on his countenance, made ſo deep an impreſſion on my mind, that I could not help conſidering his caſe very particularly; the reſult of which was, that I earneſtly wiſhed the crime for which he had been condemned, might ſtill be pardoned. I am therefore very happy, as you may be certain, to be informed ſince, that his majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to grant him a reſpite, during his royal pleaſure; and I declare myſelf ſo keenly intereſted in his behalf, that nothing ſhall give me more real pleaſure, than being informed of his having obtained a full remiſſion of that crime.

I was preſent, during the whole of his trial, and although I anxiouſly wiſhed to find him innocent, I ſhall readily admit, that his life was juſtly forfeited by the laws of this country. I ſhall alſo admit, that the crime of which he was convicted, is of a very heinous nature, and as ſuch ought to be puniſhed by the laws of every civilized ſtate: in his particular caſe too, the crime was unfortunately aggravated, not only by his being a married man, but a ſoldier in a regiment not leſs remarkable for ſobriety and regularity of conduct, than for military honour and proweſs. But after all, I am one of thoſe people who think that *a crime is greater, or leſs, according to the intention of the perſon by whom it is committed*; and if I am allowed this hypotheſis (which, by the bye, I know to be contrary to that of an author of the moſt diſtinguiſhed abilities and humanity*), I

* Beccaria, *on crimes and puniſhment.*

will venture to maintain, that this unfortunate man, was a proper object of the royal mercy. Indeed, the *animus* or intention, ſeems to be the principle on which all our penal laws are founded; and, in the preſent caſe, it was not ſo much as attempted to be proved, that the ſoldier had previouſly concerted any ſcheme, for injuring the young woman who was unlucky enough to fall in his way; nor could the ſlighteſt preſumption of premeditation be inferred from any part of the proof. The whole muſt therefore, in charity, be attributed to a ſudden, and unguarded guſt of ſenſual paſſion, unhappily enflamed by ſome intoxicating liquor, of which he had drank too freely a very ſhort time before the perpetration of the crime; and, although I am far from inſinuating that drunkenneſs can be admitted as an excuſe for any improper act, it ſurely will not be denied, that, in this ſtate, men of the moſt unexceptionable honour and integrity, have been guilty of imprudences, which, in their cooler moments they would have deteſted and abhorred.

The penal laws of almoſt every age and nation, have been ſo far imperfect, as to affix the moſt rigorous degrees of puniſhment to certain crimes, while others, of a ſtill more heinous nature, and attended with infinitely worſe conſequences to ſociety, as well as particular individuals, have been repeatedly committed, without the leaſt legal reſtraint. I ſhall only inſtance one at preſent, which, at the ſame time that it demonſtrates the truth of my aſſertion, will ſufficiently apologize for every thing which I have advanced in behalf of the poor ſoldier.—Let me ſuppoſe then, that a man can be depraved enough to contrive the ruin of a virtuous woman, that he can be baſe enough to carry on the ſcheme of ſeduction, in the moſt cool and deliberate manner, for months, nay even years together; that at laſt, under the hypocritical maſk of *honourable love*, ſealed by the moſt horrid oaths, and imprecations of eternal fidelity and conſtancy, he triumphs over her virtue; and that, after the ruffian has thus compleated his helliſh purpoſes, he ſtill adds another crime to the black catalogue, by not only abandoning at once, but treating with the moſt brutal barbarity, the woman whom he has thus deceived. Let me ſuppoſe further, by way of finiſhing the picture, that this very woman was perhaps the wife, the daughter, or near relation of a man, who kindly ſheltered the villain under his own roof, and raiſed him from extreme poverty, to an eaſy and reſpectable ſituation in life. I have choſen to ſtate this crime, or rather complication of crimes, by ſuppoſition, in order to render it leſs ſhocking to the feeling part of your readers. Would to God it were barely ſo deal! but alas, it muſt be acknowledged, to the eternal diſgrace of human nature, that *ſuch infernal characters do actually exiſt*.

One ſingle moment's reflection, on the direful train of misfortunes which may be introduced into ſociety, by ſuch a monſter as this, will make a man of no more than common ſenſibility, ſhudder with horror; but, how much more muſt the honeſt indignation of the more refined mind be rouſed, on being informed, that human ſociety has not yet been able to devile a law for the puniſhment of ſuch a deteſtable crime? And that, even this very frightful monſter, inſtead of being deſpiſed and ſhunned by all ranks of mankind, is perhaps, careſſed and ſupported by numbers of them. Its effects on individuals are no leſs ſhocking; and the miſeries and diſtreſs into which a family of heretofore unſullied virtue and honour may be plunged, by the diabolical machinations of ſuch a fiend, not to mention the unhappy object of his polution, are more eaſily felt than deſcribed. In ſhort, the ties of gratitude and hoſpitality themſelves, which although they conſtitute the ſmalleſt part of this crime, are ſo very intereſting to civil ſociety, that the leaſt violation of either, ought to be puniſhed in the moſt condign and exemplary manner; and for reaſons, evidently well founded on the ſoundeſt political principles. Yours, &c. A. B.

Dumfries, Oct. 31. 1774.

MEMOIRS *of* LEWIS XV. *late King of* France and Navarre. [P. 141.]

THE fortreſs of St Philip had been reckoned, next to Gibraltar, the ſtrongeſt in Europe, the works having been planned by the celebrated Vauban; and both from the nature of the ſoil, which was one ſolid rock, and the peculiarity of the ſituation, it was thought almoſt impregnable. In order to make themſelves maſters of this important fortreſs, the French, under the command of

the duke de Richelieu, his master's favourite, the confidant of his amours, and the partner of his pleasures, a better courtier than warrior, landed near 20,000 men, which by continual assault, and having gained an out work, at last made themselves masters of the place. Was an able engineer to decide impartially on the conduct of the French general, and the English governor general Brakeney, it would appear that both of them were equally unfit for the attack and the defence of a place.

The English saw themselves every where defeated, their armies cut off in America, and their garrisons taken in Europe. The nation exasperated, wanted a victim, and the unhappy Byng was devoted to destruction. War was now proclaimed with the usual solemnity, though it was then but a denunciation after having struck the blow. A war begun between France and England, for a distant and trackless wild in the remote parts of America, seemed now spreading fast through the whole world. The French, though successful in the commencement of this war, were very sensible that they could not long hold their acquisitions against such a superiority as the English were possessed of at sea. Being therefore apprized that a naval war must, in the end, turn out to their disadvantage, they declared that they would revenge the injuries they sustained in their colonies, or by sea, upon the king of England's territories in Germany, which they hoped would divide the British forces, and drain the finances of England by heavy subsidies. The kings of Great Britain and Prussia wished to keep the enemy out of Germany. From the similitude of their intentions, these two monarchs were induced to unite their interests, and come to an agreement to assist each other mutually in keeping all foreign forces out of the empire. Though this alliance astonished Europe, it soon produced another connexion more extraordinary. The Austrian queen applied to France; and, to procure the friendship of that power, gave up her barrier in the Netherlands, which England had been for ages acquiring with its blood and treasure: by this extraordinary revolution, the whole political system of Europe assumed a new face, and clearly shews that events guide the politician.

Count d'Argenson, who had been a long while the leading minister in France, had given the first idea of this alliance, but his advice had been disregarded. He was a good financier, a man of projects, and a votary to pleasure. He had for a long while the principal share of the confidence of his master, which he lost for interfering in the king's inglorious amours.

Cardinal Bernis, whose wit, poetical vein, and lively imagination, had procured him admittance to the ladies toilettes and secret parties, had been a great promoter of this design. From an insignificant and frivolous courtier, he had been raised to the purple, distinguished by a most honourable embassy, and become the fashionable minister by the growing influence of an ambitious and intriguing mistress, who, with an unprecedented sway, arbitrary will, and an intatiable thirst of wealth and power, directed the councils of an infatuated sovereign, appointed and displaced at pleasure ministers and generals, and reduced the first nobility of the kingdom to the humiliation of paying to her the most servile homage. This was Madame d'Etioles, wife of an ignoble financier, lately created marchioness of Pompadour. She was, in the dawn of her favour, a pretty woman; and, as ambition, not love, was her predominant passion, she winked at the king's sensual gratifications with other women, provided they did not presume to aspire to her dominion: by this policy she preserved over the passive monarch an irresistible ascendency, and from a beloved sovereign made him despicable and odious to his people. All the military operations were planned and executed by her creatures in this expensive war, and the interior policy managed by her deputies.

Even the proud, imperious, and enterprizing duke of Choiseul, was obliged to kneel down before this favourite idol, and durst not fill any great office, civil or military, without her approbation. He detested her as his superior in authority, and flattered her vanity by the meanest condescensions, when his interest coincided with his obsequiousness. Choiseul became a popular minister, for having at the peace rescued the nation from total ruin, and for siding with the parliament. He always professed an open enmity to the English; still more exasperated by their successes. He has some abilities as a statesman, some virtues as a citizen,

and has ſhewn more courage and fortitude in his diſgrace and his exile, than moſt men of his elevated ſtation doomed to a private life and retirement.

The empreſs of Ruſſia ardently embraced the propoſal of acceding to the treaty ratified between France and Auſtria. This fierce northern power can at any time pour in freſh forces upon the contending ſtates, and may perhaps at length obtain univerſal empire. The intrigues of France were alſo ſucceſsfully employed with Sweden. Thus the alliance between England and Auſtria, purchaſed by enormous ſubſidies, was at once deſtroyed. Thus England oppoſed France in America and Aſia, and France attacked Hanover on the continent of Europe, which the king of Pruſſia undertook to protect, aſſiſted by the troops and money of Great Britain. Auſtria was ſeconded in her views upon Pruſſia, by France, Ruſſia, Sweden, and Saxony.

The Hanoverians, commanded by the duke of Cumberland, unable to ſuſtain the ſuperiority of the French, headed by the gallant and fortunate Richelieu, retreated towards Stade, till their ſituation was ſuch that they could not retire nor advance with ſafety. They were compelled to ſign a capitulation, by which the whole army laid down their arms, and were diſperſed in different quarters of cantonment. By this treaty of Cloſter-Seven the Hanoverians were quite ſubdued, and all the French forces let looſe upon the king of Pruſſia. They invaded his dominions on one ſide; and though they were vanquiſhed at Roſbach by the Pruſſian hero, his dominions, even in the midſt of victory, were every day contracting by the combined armies of the Auſtrians, Swedes, and Ruſſians.

The fruitleſs and diſgraceful expedition to Rochfort expoſed the commanders to ridicule, and the Engliſh nation to contempt. At length the affairs of Engliſh in India ſeemed to gain the aſcendency, by the courage and conduct of colonel Clive, who ſhewed his talents more adapted for war than for the ſervices of a mercantile company: by his vigilance and courage, the province of Arcot was cleared of the enemy, the French general taken priſoner, and the nabob, whom the Engliſh ſupported, reinſtated in his government. The French obtained, by their cunning and ſubmiſſion, a ceſſation of arms between the two companies; but, in a few months after, both ſides renewed their operations, no longer as auxiliaries of the contending nabobs, but as rivals in arms and commerce. Chandenagore, a French ſettlement of great ſtrength, and the moſt important of any poſſeſſed by that nation in the bay of Bengal, ſubmitted to the Engliſh arms; but the chief damage the French ſuſtained was in the ruin of their head ſettlement on the Ganges, by which they had long divided the commerce of this part of India.

The ſucceſs of the Engliſh in that remote peninſula, alarmed the French miniſtry, and obliged them to ſend a conſiderable reinforcement from France, under the command of general Lally, an intrepid and preſumptuous Iriſhman, bred a ſoldier from his infancy, and who carried the military ſpirit of honour to enthuſiaſm. He took Fort St David's, plundered a town belonging to the king of Tanjour, in alliance with the Engliſh, and afterwards laid ſiege to his capital. Failing in his deſign upon this city, he entered the province of Arcot, and undertook with equal raſhneſs the ſiege of Madras, which he raiſed with the ſame precipitance. In this manner the affairs of the French went on declining by ſea and land. Colonel Coote, a man of prudence and bravery, marched againſt Lally, took the city of Wandevaſh in his way, reduced Carangoly, commanded by colonel O'Kennedy, and at length came up with the French general, equally deſirous of the engagement.

After a furious and obſtinate battle, which continued from the morning early to two in the afternoon, the French gave way, and left their cannon and the field to the conquerors. The loſs of the city of Arcot was the conſequence of this victory. Nothing now remained to them of their vaſt poſſeſſions in India, but Pondicherry, their ſtrongeſt, largeſt, and moſt beautiful ſettlement. This city exceeded, in its proſperity, all other European ſettlements there, in trade, opulence, and ſplendor; and was ſtill, after repeated defeats, the repoſitory of all the French wealth. Colonel Coote and admiral Stevens attacked it by ſea and land. Notwithſtanding the inclemency of the climate, the Engliſh commander continued before the place full ſeven months. Lally was reſolutely bent on ſuffering every calamity rather than yield this laſt

ſtake of French power in India. Though his ſoldiers were obliged to feed on dogs and cats, yet ſtill he determined to hold out: at length he found his troops half conſumed with fatigue and famine, a breach made in the ramparts, and not more than one day's proviſion of any kind remaining. Reduced to an extremity that would admit of no heſitation, he could not be prevailed upon to offer any terms, and therefore ſuffered the Engliſh troops to take poſſeſſion of the place, but refuſed to ſurrender it in the uſual forms. This conqueſt terminated the French power in India, and the Engliſh became poſſeſſed of the whole trade of that vaſt peninſula from the Indus to the Ganges.

(To be continued.)

The Lord Treaſurer BURLEIGH's *Letter to his Son* ROBERT.

SON ROBERT,

THE virtuous inclinations of thy matchleſs mother, by whoſe tender care thy infancy was governed, together with thy late education under ſo zealous and excellent a tutor, put me rather in aſſurance than hope, that thou art not ignorant of the *ſummum bonum*, which is only able to make thee happy, as well in thy death as in thy life: I mean the true knowledge and worſhip of thy Creator and Redeemer, without which all other things are vain and miſerable: ſo that thy youth being governed by ſo all-ſufficient a tutor, I make no doubt but he will furniſh thy life with moral and divine documents.

Yet, that I may not ceaſe of the care beſeeming a parent towards his child, or that thou ſhouldſt have cauſe to derive thy whole felicity and welfare rather from others, than from whom thou receivedſt thy birth and being, I think it fit and agreeable to the affection I bear thee, to help thee with ſuch advertiſements and rules for the ſquaring thy life, as are gained rather by long experience than reading—to the end that thou, entering into this exorbitant age, mayeſt be better prepared to ſhun the cautelous courſes whereunto the world, and the lack of experience, may draw thee; and becauſe I would not confound thy memory, I have reduced them into ten parts, and next unto Moſes' table, if thou imprint them in thy mind, thou ſhalt reap the benefit, and I the contentment. And theſe they are.

I. When it ſhall pleaſe God to bring thee to man's eſtate, uſe great providence and circumſpection in the choice of thy wife; for from thence will ſpring all thy future good or ill: and it is an action in which, like a ſtratagem of war, a man can err but once. If thy eſtate be good, match near home, and at leiſure; if weak, far off, and quickly. Enquire diligently of her diſpoſition, and how her parents have been inclined in their youth. Let her not be poor, how generous ſoever, for a man can buy nothing in the market with gentility; nor chuſe a baſe, uncomely creature altogether for her wealth: for it will cauſe contempt in others, and loathing in thee. Neither make choice of a dwarf or a fool; for by the one thou ſhalt beget a race of pigmies—the other will be thy daily diſgrace; and it will vex thee to hear her talk, and thou ſhalt find to thy grief, that there is nothing ſo tuſſome as a *ſhe fool*.

And touching the government of thy houſe, let thy hoſpitality be moderate, and according to the meaſure of thy eſtate, rather plentiful than ſparing, but not coſtly; for I never knew any grow poor by keeping an orderly table: but ſome conſume themſelves through ſecret vices, and then hoſpitality bears the blame; but baniſh ſwiniſh drunkenneſs of thy houſe, which is a vice that impairs health, conſumes much, and makes no ſhew. And I never heard praiſe aſcribed to a drunkard, but the well-bearing of his liquor, which is a better commendation for a brewer's horſe, or a carman, than either for a gentleman or ſerving man. And beware thou ſpend not above three parts of the four of thy living, nor above a third part of that in thy houſe; for the other two parts will do no more than defray thy extraordinaries, which will always ſurmount thy ordinaries by far; otherwiſe thou ſhalt live, like a rich beggar, in continual want, and a needy man can never live happy nor contented; for every the leaſt diſaſter makes him ready to mortgage or ſell, and that gentleman that ſells one acre of land loſes an ounce of credit; for gentility is nothing but ancient riches; ſo that, if a foundation ſhrinks, the building muſt needs follow.

II. Bring thy children up in learning and obedience, yet without auſterity;

praiſe them openly, reprehend them ſecretly, give them a good countenance, and a ſufficient maintenance, according to thy ability; otherwiſe thy life will ſeem their bondage, and whatever portion thou ſhalt leave them, they will thank death for it, not thee; and I am perſuaded, that the fooliſh cookerings of ſome parents, and the over-ſtern carriage of others, cauſeth more men and women to go aſtray, than their natural inclinations.

Marry thy daughters in time, leſt they marry themſelves; and ſuffer not thy ſons to paſs the *Alps*, for they ſhall learn nothing there but pride, blaſphemy, and atheiſm; and if by travelling they get a few broken languages, that will profit them no more than to have the ſame meat ſerved up in different diſhes. Neither by my conſent ſhalt thou train them up to the wars; for he that ſets up his reſt to live by that profeſſion, can hardly be an honeſt man, or a good chriſtian; for every war is of itſelf unjuſt, unleſs the cauſe makes it juſt; beſides, it is a ſcience no longer in requeſt than in uſe, for ſoldiers in peace are like chimnies in ſummer.

III. Live not in the country without corn or cattle about thee; for he that puts his hand to his purſe for every expence of houſhold, is like him that pretends to hold water in a ſieve; and what proviſion thou ſhalt want, learn to buy it at the beſt hand: for there is one penny in four ſaved between buying a thing at thy need, and when the markets and ſeaſons are fitteſt for it. And be not ſerved by kinſmen, friends, or men entreated to ſtay, for they will expect much and do little; nor with ſuch as are amorous, for their heads are always intoxicated; and keep rather a few than one too many. Feed them all, and pay them with the moſt, and then thou mayeſt boldly require their ſervice and duty.

IV. Let thy kindred and thy allies be always welcome to thy table. Grace them in all other honeſt actions, for by this means thou ſhalt ſo double that bond of nature, as thou ſhalt find them ſo many advocates to plead for thee behind thy back: ſhake off the glow worms, I mean the paraſites and ſycophants, who will feed and fawn in the ſummer of thy proſperity, but in an adverſe ſtorm will ſhelter thee no more than an arbour in winter.

V. Beware of ſuretyſhip for thy beſt friends, for he that pays another's debts ſeeks his own decay; but if thou canſt not otherwiſe, chuſe rather to lend thy money thyſelf upon good bond, though thou borrow it: ſo ſhalt thou pleaſure thy friend, and ſecure thyſelf. Neither borrow money of thy friend, but rather of a mere ſtranger, where paying it thou ſhalt hear of it no more; otherwiſe, thou ſhalt eclipſe thy credit, loſe thy friend, and yet pay as dear for it as to another. But in borrowing of money be precious of thy word; for he that hath care to preſerve days of payment, is lord over other mens goods.

VI. Undertake not a ſuit againſt a poor man without receiving much wrong; for, beſides thou makeſt him thy competitor, it is a baſe conqueſt to triumph where there is no reſiſtance. Neither attempt law againſt any man, before thou haſt thoroughly reſolved thou haſt right on thy ſide; and then ſpare neither money nor pains; for a cauſe or two, ſo followed and obtained, will free thee from ſuits beſt part of thy life.

VII. Be ſure to keep ſome great man thy friend, but trouble him not with trifles; compliment him often, preſent him with many, yet ſmall gifts, and a little charge; and if thou haſt cauſe to beſtow any great gratuity, let it be ſome ſuch thing as may be daily in his ſight, otherwiſe, in thy ambitious age, thou ſhalt remain like an hop without a pole, and be made a football for every inſulting companion to ſpurn at.

VIII. Towards thy ſuperiors be humble, yet generous; with thy equals familiar, yet reſpective; towards thy inferiors ſhew much humility and ſome familiarity, as to bow thy body, ſtretch forth thy hand, or uncover thy head, and ſuch like popular compliments. The firſt prepares way for thy advancement, the ſecond makes thee known for a man well bred, the third gains a good report, which once got is eaſily kept; for high humility takes ſuch deep root in the minds of the multitude, as they are eaſier won by unprofitable courteſies than by churliſh benefits; yet I adviſe thee not to affect or neglect popularity too much: ſeek not to be C——, and ſhun to be R——.

IX. Truſt not any man with thy life, or credit, or eſtate; for it is more than folly for a man to enthral himſelf to his friend, as that occaſion being offered, he dare not become his enemy.

X. Be not ſcurrilous in thy converſa-

tion, nor ſatirical in thy jeſts: the one will make thee unwelcome to all company; the other will pull on quarrels, and get thee hatred of thy beſt friends: for ſulphurous jeſts, when they ſavour too much of truth, leave a bitterneſs in the minds of thoſe that are touched; and though I have already pointed at this incluſive, yet I think it neceſſary to leave it to thee, as a ſpecial caution; becauſe I have ſeen ſo many prone to quip and gird, as they would rather loſe their friends than their jeſts. And if by chance their boiling brains yield any quaint ſcoff, they travel to be delivered of it, like a woman with child: theſe nimble apprehenſions are but the froth of wit.

To the PUBLISHER, *&c.*

SIR,

THE letters of count de Buſſy are ſo highly recommended by the earl of Cheſterfield to his ſon, as models of epiſtolary elegance and pleaſantry, that a ſpecimen of them cannot fail, I think, to be agreeable to your readers, particularly as a tranſlation of them has never appeared in Engliſh. I was induced to read them on his lordſhip's recommendation, and found them anſwerable to it. I tranſlated ſuch as I liked beſt, and alſo the anſwers, both which are at your ſervice, together with ſome anecdotes of the count.

Yours, &c. R. W.

ANECDOTES *of Count de* BUSSY.

ROGER de Rabutin, count de Buſſy, was born in 1622, and died in 1693. He very early diſcovered a taſte for literature, and made great progreſs at the college; but his ſtudies were ſoon interrupted; for, at the age of ſixteen, he was called to the command of a company in his father's regiment. He made a gallant officer; and, young as he was, he immediately formed the deſign of writing memoirs of the campaigns in which he ſerved. They are finely executed, and would have thrown much light upon the hiſtory of the times, had not certain prudential reaſons, to which he was not always over attentive, made it neceſſary to ſtrike out the moſt marking features of ſome principal characters.

The following paſſage cannot fail to be agreeable to every Engliſhman.

"At the battle of Dunkirk (ſays he), the Engliſh, under gen. Lockhart, climbed up an eminence, which was ſo ſteep that the ſecond rank ſupported the firſt with the butt end of their guns, and theſe received the ſame aſſiſtance from the third, and ſo on, animating each other with ſhouts of "Old England for ever! huzza!" and this through a continual fire from the Spaniards poſted on the ſummit."

I ſhall quote another paſſage, which more particularly marks the man, and his manner of writing.

"After dinner one day (ſays he) at the ſiege of Lerida, the company, who were all intimate friends, fell a-drinking and ſinging. In the height of our jollity, the chevalier de Valiere was called upon by the marquis de la Trouſſe (who was to relieve him) for inſtructions concerning what works were to be carried on; but the marquis, ſeeing him engaged, was for putting it off.—"No (ſaid the chevalier), it is neceſſary that I ſhould attend you along the trenches for your better information: So, gentlemen, your ſervant for half an hour." But within leſs than a quarter of an hour, the chevalier's ſervant came, crying out, "that his maſter was killed;" and ſo it actually was; for the marquis, who affected always to expoſe himſelf needleſsly, walking along the dyke of the trenches, inſtead of keeping within the gut, the chevalier, ſcorning to ſhew more caution, was knocked on the head by a muſket-ball. After looking at each other (continues the count), the ſongs and glaſſes went round as briſkly as if nothing at all had happened. So true it is, that war uſually hardens the heart of man, even to the extinction of human ſenſibility."

Count de Buſſy, beſides his memoirs and his letters, ſo highly eſteemed, wrote ſeveral detached pieces. In his Rabutiniana he relates a pretty anecdote of the famous admiral de Chatillon. "As it was no ſecret (ſays the count) that the Huguenots were very urgent with him to declare himſelf of their party, the queen, ſuſpecting his fidelity, ſent a gentleman to expoſtulate with him about his behaviour; who being come to the ſeat where the admiral at that time reſided, to his great ſurpriſe found him on the top of a tree, with a pruning knife in his hand, lopping off the ſuperfluous branches. The gentleman, however, acquainted him with the queen's apprehenſions: to

which the admiral made no other reply than "Go, tell her majeſty at what employment you found me!" intimating, that one who meditated rebellion would want both the leiſure and tranquillity to amuſe himſelf in lopping trees."

The following ingenious remark, tho' full of meaning, will be far from recommending him to the clergy.

"How ſtrange (ſays he) is the force of cuſtom!—Three words, *Ego conjugo vos*, pronounced by a certain ſet of men, authoriſe a man to lie with a girl, by the conſent of all parties; and this is called a *ſacrament adminiſtered by a man of God*; while the ſame fact, without theſe three previous words, brings the worſt of infamy on a frail creature. In the firſt inſtance, what merry doings are there among the bride's relations?—Her own mother puts her to bed, and ſhe riſes without a bluſh; but, in the ſecond, they are aſhamed to ſhew their heads, and the criminal is ſhunned, and huddled away into a convent. It muſt be owned ſome laws are very ſingular."

The count, however, would have been in no danger from the clergy, if he had kept clear of the court; but his "Amorous Hiſtory of the Gauls," and his "Hiſtory of the Amours of the Palace Royal," in which the perſon of the ſovereign is diſadvantageouſly introduced, occaſioned what he conſidered as the moſt ſignal misfortune of his life. He was diſmiſſed the ſervice, and baniſhed the court. During his retirement, he corrected his memoirs, and wrote moſt of the letters which do him ſo much honour.

The following letters will ſerve as an example of his manner, and likewiſe of his couſin's, the marchioneſs de Sevigny. To preſerve the ſimplicity of ſtile is impoſſible.

Madame de Sevigny *to Count de* Buſſy.

Paris, June 19. 1672.

"I CANNOT comprehend how one could expoſe one's ſelf a thouſand times, as you have done, and not be killed a thouſand times alſo. I am much occupied to-day with this reflection. The death of M. de Longueville, de Guitry, de Nogent, and ſeveral others: the wounds of the prince royal, Marcillac, Vivonne, Monrevel, Thevel, count de Saux, Termes, and of a thouſand unknown perſons, have given me a frightful idea of war.

"I cannot underſtand the paſſage of the Rhine by ſwimming. To throw themſelves in on horſeback, like dogs after a ſtag, and neither be drowned, nor killed in landing, ſurpaſſes my imagination ſo far, that the very thought of it is like to turn my brain. God has hitherto preſerved my ſon; but how uncertain is the life of a ſoldier!—Adieu, my dear couſin; dinner waits me."

Count de Buſſy *to Madame de* Sevigny.

Chaſeu, June 26. 1672.

"HOW many think like you, madam, that military men only are mortal! The truth, however, is, that war only haſtens the death of ſome who might perhaps have lived a little longer. For my own part, I have been preſent on ſeveral pretty perilous occaſions, without having received a ſingle wound. My misfortunes proceed from another ſource; and, to ſpeak freely, I am better pleaſed to live leſs happy, than not to live at all. Many men have been killed in their firſt encounter, and as many in their ſecond;

Coſi l' ha voluto il fato.

"Such was the will of fate."

"But I ſee you all in alarm: let me therefore aſſure you, madam, that one often makes ſeveral campaigns without drawing a ſword, and one is often in a battle without ſeeing an enemy. For example, when one is in the ſecond line, or in the rear-guard, and the firſt line decides the conteſt, as it happened in the battle of Dunes in 1658. In a field engagement, the officers of the horſe run the greateſt hazard; and in a ſiege, the officers of foot are a thouſand times more expoſed: But, to divert your fears on this head, I ſhall relate a ſaying of Maurice prince of Orange, told me by marſhal Turenne: "Young girls think a lover is always ready (*en etat*), and churchmen that a ſoldier's ſword is always in his hand."

"The concern you have in the army has produced the melancholy reflections you ſent me. If your ſon had not been there, you would have conſidered the paſſage of the Rhine without emotion: it would have appeared leſs a raſh than a bold action; and, like a thouſand others, would ſoon have been forgot. Believe me, my dear couſin, things in general are neither great nor little, but

as the mind makes them ſo. The ſwimming over the Rhine is a gallant action, but by no means ſo wonderful as you ſuppoſe. Two thouſand horſe paſs over to attack four or five hundred: the two thouſand are ſupported by a large army, and the king in perſon, while the four or five hundred are troops intimidated by the vigorous manner in which we began the campaign. Had the Dutch been braver, they might indeed have killed a few more men in that rencounter; but that would have been all: they muſt at laſt have been overpowered by numbers. Had the prince of Orange been on the other ſide of the Rhine with his army, I am apt to think we ſhould not have attempted to ſwim over in oppoſition to him: if we had, the ſucceſs would have been more doubtful. That, however, would have been no more than what Alexander did in paſſing the Granicus. He made good his paſſage with forty thouſand men, in ſpite of a hundred thouſand that oppoſed him. Had he failed, it is true, the attempt would have been branded with folly; and its ſucceſs only has made it be conſidered as the moſt gallant action in war."

Madame de Sevigny *to Count de* Buſſy.

Monjeu, July 22. 1672.

"ALL your reaſonings are juſt, my dear count. Nothing is more true than that the event of war conſtitutes a madman or a hero. If the count de Guiche had been repulſed in paſſing the Rhine, he would have ſuffered univerſal diſgrace, as he was only deſired to examine if the river was fordable. He wrote that it was, although it really was not ſo; and it is only becauſe the paſſage ſucceeded that he is covered with glory.

"The ſaying of the prince of Orange pleaſes me much. I believe in faith it is true; and that the greater part of girls flatter themſelves—I ſay not how far, on the point in queſtion. As to the churchmen, my opinion was not intirely the ſame with theirs, but it was very little different. You did well to undeceive me. I begin to breathe again."

[*To be continued.*]

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

THE following letter I had from a friend in Perthſhire, who is a conſiderable dealer in black cattle, reſpecting the method of curing a diſeaſe very incident to black cattle in many places of Scotland ſituated near natural oak-woods, and even in ſome other grounds; as it may be of ſome utility to the public, and may give the hint to ſome of your more knowing correſpondents to enlarge upon the ſubject, your giving it a place in your Magazine will very much oblige,

SIR,

Yours, &c. T. R.

Edinburgh, Nov. 13.

DEAR SIR,

I RECEIVED your favour of the 25th ult. and, *inter alia*, obſerve you deſire a deſcription of that diſtemper among the black cattle, commonly called the *murrain* here, and is the ſame with that called the *red water* in England and ſouth parts of Scotland.

My own particular experience with it has only been ſince April laſt, though I have often heard of my neighbours loſing beaſts in it, and have ſeen ſome affected.

There are many places in this country where few cattle are bought, either in ſpring or the ſummer ſeaſon, that are not ſeized with it; and it often proves mortal to old cattle, milk-cows and bulls, eſpecially in dry ſeaſons. It is not reckoned fatal to young cattle with calf teeth, though few of them miſs taking it, and none take it twice. It is obſerved that all paſtures, in or near oak-woods, are always ſubject to the murrain; but there are other places as bad, if poſſible, where no oak grows at preſent, *viz.* the Sheriffmuir, the foreſt of Alyth, &c. &c.

It is eaſy to be obſerved when they are ſeized, as they loath their meat, are ſeized with an extraordinary quick fever, and their urine is clammy, thick and red.

The ſooner the cure is adminiſtered the better, which is, for a large full grown beaſt, one chopin of common white ſalt, or of bay ſalt, leſs in proportion to its ſtrength, and one chopin good ſpring water mixed together, ſtirring it on a ſlow fire till the ſalt is diſſolved, then given blood warm to the beaſt, by the aſſiſtance of a horn placed in the beaſt's mouth, ſo as he may be obliged to ſwallow it without loſing any thing: the beaſt is then to be ſhut up in a houſe twelve hours after, without meat or wa-

ter, then brought out to the cleareſt ſpring well that can be got, when the creature will drink immoderately, and work its own cure by a plentiful diſcharge of urine.

Half of the above quantity of ſalt will ſerve for a year old, or ſmall two years old, and ſo in proportion to the ſize of the beaſt.

This remedy is much approved of by thoſe who have tried it. The perſon who gave it to me has a conſiderable graſs farm in the Sheriffmuir, which, he ſays, moſtly ruined the preceding tenant by the death of his beaſts, inſomuch that the landlord had great difficulty to find a perſon willing to ſucceed him. He had this ſimple preſcription ſince from an Engliſh drover; for the droves are ſometimes demoliſhed ſadly by that diſtemper, eſpecially in hot dry weather, before Lammas. He ſays he has not loſt one hoof, though many have taken the diſtemper, and it is ten years ago. Cattle are ſeldom ſeized with it before April, or after Lammas. No ſort of management is required after the beaſt drinks; and it is obſerved they never die of the diſtemper if they drink after the cure is adminiſtered; and they may thereafter be put to their uſual paſture. This is all that occurs on the ſubject to,

DEAR SIR,

Yours, &c. J. O.

L——, *Nov.* 3. 1774.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

AS your Magazine is the channel of conveying any extraordinary occurrences that happen in the kingdom, and the only way that uncommon grievances can reach the public ear, from perſons ſo ſituated as to be debarred legal redreſs without expences, which poſſibly their finances cannot afford, permit me to occupy a ſmall part of your Miſcellany with a narrative, which ſhall at leaſt, if void of every other embelliſhment, be ſincere truth.

I have now been near thirty years employed in the mercantile way on ſome northern iſlands of his majeſty's dominions, where the inhabitants carry on a conſiderable branch of the fiſheries, and enjoy the bounty conferred by act of parliament, of three ſhillings per hundred weight on ling, cod, and tuſk-fiſh, exported to foreign countries. This indulgence, when ſeaſons are benign, and markets abroad tolerable, enables the individuals to live with decency and eaſe, notwithſtanding Nature has not been liberal to them as to ſoil, climate, and other benefits accruing from agriculture. Indeed I am apt to think, that even this would be conſiderably improved upon in ſpite of the ſeeming difficulties before ſuggeſted; but that the bulk of the people have been, and are accuſtomed, to go upon the fiſhing during the ſummer ſeaſon, and are thereby denied the means of cultivating their grounds properly, or providing manure, which is to be got at that time of the year only.

The gentlemen who have property in theſe iſlands oblige their tenants or farmers to fit out boats, lines, and other apparatus for the fiſhing, and give them a certain allowance for every fiſh they bring on ſhore; theſe who have little or no property are at the expence of every appurtenance: And to give an idea of the amounts, the following is noways aggravated:

	£.	ſ.
To expence for a ſix-oar'd boat new fitted out, maſt, ſail, &c. is — —	6	0
To ordinary wages for ſix men during two months of ſummer, — —	6	0
To tackling, lines, hooks, &c. at a mean compute, —	5	0
To 3 bolls 12 lifpds. meal, *communibus annis*, not under — —	2	0
To contingencies, bed-cloaths, cooking utenſils, Mid-ſummer feaſt, and Lammas farewel feaſt, — —	0	12
	19	12

From which view of the matter, which can be aſcertained by men of candour as ſtrict truth, the precarious gains ariſing from this branch will be found inſignificant. I have myſelf for many years launched out a conſiderable ſubject in this way, and, one year with another, cannot boaſt of returns equivalent to the outlay, at an average. Three hundred ling fiſh are eſteemed good fiſhing for a boat; many times below, but ſeldom, for my own ſhare, have I experienced it riſe above. The people who go on their own venture I allow ſixpence for each ling as they run, and take the whole charge of apparatus

upon myself. The markets I generally send them to are Hamburgh in Germany, and Barcelona in Spain: if they render nine ſtivers each ling, it is the utmoſt; and, indeed, they muſt be large when this ariſes of free money to the vender; ſo that when ſalt, curing, and tranſporting theſe fiſh to the different loading creeks in the iſlands is conſidered, it muſt appear to the world, that if were nor for the gratuity conferred by government, that branch behoved to be given over, and the Dutch muſt monopolize the golden harveſt of our coaſts.—After what is premiſed, I now come to the deſign of this letter.

The honourable the c———s of c———s have thought expedient this year to iſſue forth peremptory orders to the ſhipping officers in theſe iſlands, not to certify any fiſh to a foreign market as intitled to the bounty of three ſhillings per cwt. excepting they are dry, merchantable, and not ſalt-burnt; and this without exception of what markets they are appointed for, or allowing any to judge of the quality of the fiſh, ſave the ſhipping officers; ſo that by this arbitrary detrimental plan, matters are like to be conducted to the infinite prejudice of the merchant.

For above fifty years, matters have been carried on agreeable to the ſpirit of the act of parliament, and the views of the legiſlature in framing ſuch act have been fully anſwered without fraud or ſiniſter arts employed by the trader or merchant. When ſeaſons are backward, and the fiſh not ſufficiently dried, the officers were permitted to make deductions of five-pence per cwt. upwards or under, as they thought circumſtances required, and in this the merchant chearfully acquieſced; but, by the preſent mode, no alternative is left—the bounty muſt be intirely ſuperſeded, and many induſtrious and helpleſs individuals rendered bankrupt, who, like myſelf, have little elſe to depend upon. Can it be ſuppoſed, or rationally ſuſpected, that the merchant, for the views of obtaining this bounty of three ſhillings per cwt. on fiſh, would riſk his whole ſubject, for which he expects at market thirteen or fourteen ſhillings per cwt.? Can, I ſay (allowing him to be the moſt ungrateful of men, which ſurely he muſt, if he harboured a thought of abuſing the goodneſs and benignity conferred by government), a thought ſo inconſiſtent with his own intereſt be with any propriety entertained? Here ſelf and the public are ſo linked, and obliged to co-operate, that it appears the moſt ſurpriſing thing in nature for the honourable board to hint at ſuſpicions of fraud or duplicity.

Different markets require diſtinct qualities in the fiſh: the Germans want them to have abundance of ſalt; and if they are ſmooth and white, though not hard dried, they anſwer that market beſt. Spain being a hot climate, where ſalt, at leaſt over-ſalted fiſh, would ſoon ruffle and ſpoil, requires the ling to be moderately ſalted, and of conſequence to admit thus being dried to the conſiſtence of bone, which every connoiſſeur in the fiſh trade muſt know is impracticable with fiſh liberally ſalted; for, dry theſe fiſh as you will, by a night's confinement in a ware-houſe, or any cloſe place, the ſalt will occaſion a dampneſs, to appearance as if not thoroughly dried. Now, in this dilemma, what are the merchants and fiſh-curers to do? Spain cannot exhauſt all their fiſh; they are debarred ſending them to the next proper place; or, if they do, the bounty conferred is withdrawn, and the proceeds in ſuch caſe cannot indemnify the proprietor for his expence and prime coſt.

Where ſhall the ſufferers appeal? All arguments with the ſhipping officers, from a ſenſe of duty, or perhaps caprice, are vain: they are ſo and ſo enjoined, and they will not riſk their offices by counteracting the commiſſioners orders. They acknowledge the ſeeming abſurdity of this meaſure; yea, they acknowledge that the fiſh exported to the different markets for preceding years have been the ſame in quality as are now refuſed to be certified, but redargue their inſtructions.—It were to be wiſhed ſome of the gentlemen in authority were readers of your Magazine, who would, I am confident, be ſhocked at ſuch an unuſual ſtretch of authority all of a ſudden exerciſed by the hon. b——d of c——s. They, for many years paſt, have been throwing obſtructions, which have a tendency to hamper and crub the merchants in theſe iſlands: they have loaded government with a new expence o ſending over yearly one or other officer, under the name of inſpector, who, if I am not wrong informed, have an allowance of ten ſhillings ſter. per *diem*, by and attour his or their ordinary ſalaries

going on; and it is no doubt natural to think, that their reports, in order to appear neceſſary, may inſtil prejudices into the ears of their conſtituents.

But, whatever may be in that, I dare be bold to ſay, from long experience, that there is not in Great Britain more accuracy or integrity manifeſted in any branch than in the fiſh weighing from theſe iſlands. And what makes an aggravation of this ſuperfluous expence of inſpectors, &c. is, that we have at the head of our cuſtom-houſe here, a gentleman who would do honour to a higher department; and whoſe conduct is irreproachable, as he is remarkable for good ſenſe and every moral duty.—If the hon. board mean to pay theſe extraordinary officers by curtailing, or rather totally withdrawing, the munificent and free grant, beſtowed as an encouragement on the fiſheries, they, it is likely, will gain their ends. I hope, however, that matters are not brought intirely to this dilemma; and that the hon. board, or, if they ſhall decline it, that the lords of the treaſury will conſider of, and put a ſtop to ſuch lawleſs and uncommon exertions of power, to cruſh a whole country. I again ardently pray that theſe hints may fall into the hands of ſome benevolent perſon who has the power, and will look into this grievance, with many more incumbrances to trade, which theſe iſlands have groaned beneath for a ſeries of years—for numberleſs they are, and ſhall be fully repreſented in ſome future paper. Yours, &c. MERCATOR.

N. B. Why ſuch a ſtir about the white filling bounty, when two Greenland veſſels equal the whole ſum expended on debentures for the whole northern iſlands?

GENUINE ANECDOTE.

A SPOT of ground in the garden at Kew was dug by their royal highneſſes the prince of Wales and biſhop of Oſnabrug; they ſowed it with wheat; they attended the growth of their little crop, weeded, reaped, and harveſted it. They threſhed out the corn, and ſeparated it from the chaff. And at this period of their labour, were taught to reflect from their own experience, on the various labour and attention of the farmer. Nor did this admirable leſſon ſtop here. The princes not only raiſed the crop; they alſo ground it; and having parted the bran from the meal, attended to the whole proceſs of making it into bread. This bread it might be imagined was eaten with no ſlight reliſh: the king and queen partook of the philoſophical repaſt, and beheld with pleaſure the very amuſements of their children rendered the ſource of uſeful knowledge.—An inſtance, and no trifling one, that a great nobleman, *Lord Holderneſs*, from having attended to agriculture, is ſo much the better qualified to ſuperintend the education of a prince.

This may be a prelude to a farm, in ſome of the royal gardens, parks, or chaſes, where our amiable young princes may have a farther opportunity of learning the theory and practice of agriculture:——where they might ſee a courſe of rational experiments, and gain not a mere mechanical idea of what that uſeful claſs of the people the farmers perform, but a political acquaintance with the connection between the expenditure and the products of huſbandry:—they would learn the neceſſity of the farmer being ſecure in the poſſeſſion of that harveſt his induſtry prepared;—the dependance of all the orders of the ſtate on the ſoil—the population that flows from a good culture—in a word, they would ſee that well tilled fields were the ſource of armies, of navies, of conqueſts, of ſplendid courts, and magnificent expences. They might ſet their hands to the plough, and remember that its good progreſs was the teſt of a nation's happineſs and a monarch's glory; and from hence, never forget the maxim of the wiſe ſovereign, *the king's favour, is as dew upon the graſs.*

The MISER'S LEGACY.

PAULLINO, finding himſelf bowed down with age, and ready to ſink into the grave, condeſcends to make his will.—"I give and bequeath," ſays he—and at the word *bequeath* he ſighs—"I give and bequeath all my eſtates unto my ſon Charles."—*And your caſh, Sir?*—"My caſh!—What that too?—Well, my caſh, ſince it muſt be ſo, I give and bequeath unto my ſon Henry."—And a tear dropped down.—*Then, Sir, your houſe, your furniture, your*—"Hold, my friend, hold!—My houſe, my furniture, I cannot diſpoſe of!"—Paullino would have added his reaſons for it; but it was too late.—Already was his breath gone—already was he in the land of ſpirits.

POETRY.

The SIMPLE YOUTH *and* WHORISH WOMAN. *Taken from the* PROVERBS *of* SOLOMON.

'TWAS at the close of the departing day,
When the still thoughts the scenes of life survey;
Revolving the safe path which wisdom treads,
And the sure woe to which blind folly leads;
As at my window I the street descry'd,
And thro' my casement outward objects spy'd,
A striking scene did my attention draw;
Hear, O ye sons! of wisdom stand in awe!
Now gath'ring shades upon the city frown'd;
And now the vain and wanton walk'd their round;
They wander'd loose where-e'er wild fancy drew,
And leagu'd their frolics to pursue.
Among those youths, whom never goodness warm'd;
Whose foolish hearts ne'er heav'nly wisdom charm'd;
Whom ne'er religion's sacred laws restrain'd,
Nor fear of God to sober virtue gain'd,
I saw, in heedless paces pass along
One in fair youth, and blooming manhood strong:
But ne'er, alas! on his untutor'd mind
One op'ning ray of understanding shin'd:
To vanity's fantastic shrine he bow'd,
And, where temptation led the way, pursu'd:
His simple soul, by headlong passion sway'd,
Roll'd with each wave, and ev'ry breeze obey'd.
Hard by the dome where harlot pleasure keeps
Her orgies lewd, he turn'd his careless steps;
Where lust insatiate holds her lawless reign,
"With face of pleasure, but a heart of pain;"
Where guilty riot blows her pois'nous breath
With rank diseases, poverty and death.
To seize the fit occasion, near at hand
The watchful sorc'ress kept her silent stand.
Abroad she gades, prompt by her base desires,
And flies the house where modesty retires.
Now in the street, now at the corner waits,
To 'lure some strolling wand'rer to her nets:
She seeks the twilight, and black shades of night,
To screen her deeds of darkness from the light.
As on the simpleton she cast her eye,
She instant mark'd him out her destin'd prey;
Then, quick as light'ning sheds its sudden blaze,
Her gaudy fin'ry struck his wond'ring gaze.
The glossy silk her showy robes compos'd,
With various arts to gain the view expos'd:
Her waving mantle loose around her flew,
And half her bosom naked swell'd to view:
The polish'd curls, dispos'd with nicest care,
And woven flow'rets deck'd her braided hair:
The sparkling jewel on her front appears,
And pendant diamonds glitter'd in her ears:
Her rolling eyes in study'd glances play'd,
And flirting airs her wantonness betray'd.
Now all at once, with frank and open face,
With dimpling smile, and ev'ry smirking grace;
With voice and air, sweet as the melting song,
She thus accosts the youth who pass'd along:
"My dearest love! (and as she spoke she kiss'd,
"And press'd him gently to her heaving breast)!
"My love! my life! what transports do I feel?
"What boundless joys—too rapt'rous to conceal?
"How great my bliss to meet thy blooming charms,
"And thus to fold thee in my longing arms?
"This morn, my love! my pious vows I paid;
"Peace-offerings were on the altar laid:
"These I have by me kept with special care*,
"A grateful feast for thee—delicious fare!
"Therefore I came abroad to seek thy face;
"In quest of thee I've roam'd from place to place:
"Since now I've found thee, source of all my joy!
"Let us the night in mirth and love employ.
"For thee within I've richly deck'd my bed,
"Above with flow'red tapestry bespread:
"Fine linen too, from distant Egypt, there,
"And carvings of nice workmanship appear.
"The tempting couch will ev'ry sense regale;
"It breathes perfume sweet as Arabia's gale!
"With myrrh and cassia, and choice incense round.
"Let all our cares amid these sweets be drown'd.
"Why do we linger?—Thither let us haste,
"And, unrestrain'd, ecstatic pleasures taste;
* * * * * * * *
* * * * * * * *
"Nor fear, when circl'd in my folding arms,
"Fear not an angry husband's rude alarms:
"The good man is from home—to distance gone;
"We'll sport ourselves securely all alone."
The syren thus, with face devoid of shame,
Smooth flow'd her speech, smooth as the gliding stream;
As liquid honey ev'ry word distill'd,
But all the tainted thoughts with poison fill'd.

* *It was an antient custom, that such as presented peace-offerings afterwards made a feast upon their sacrifices, to which their neighbours and friends were often invited.*

The ſimple youth, at firſt reluctant, bluſh'd,
But ſoon remorſe and ſtruggling fears were
huſh'd:
Decoy'd by her fair ſpeech ſhe made him
yield,
And by the flatt'ring of her lips prevail'd.
Behold him now the wink and nod obey;
He follows ſtraight, exulting in the way,
As ſilly bird by ſubtile fowler ſnar'd,
Or the tame ox for certain death prepar'd,
Unconſcious of what butch'rous hands in-
tend;
Or like ſome felon dancing to his end.
In guilty pleaſure's lap, ſecure from fear,
He dreams—nor ſees the threat'ning danger
near,
Till thro' his liver the embitter'd dart
Strikes deep, and rankles madly at his heart:
A latent poiſon burns in ev'ry vein;
Each vital ſmarts with agonizing pain:
Deſtruction yawns to ſeize her trembling
prey,
And death and hell their horrid gates diſ-
play.
Now black'ning horrors fill with pale diſmay;
No pow'r, no charm, the tempeſt can allay:
Now wak'ning conſcience plies her ſcorpion
rod,
And points to the infernal drear abode—
Deſpair is ſeen, with hiſſing ſnakes around,
And reſtleſs furies probe th' eternal wound.
He mourns at laſt when fleſh and bones con-
ſume,
"How did I headlong ruſh unto my doom?
"How did I wiſdom's pleading voice deſpiſe!
"Inſtruction's lore was hateful in mine eyes:
"From all my teachers grave the ear I
turn'd,
"And virtue's ſober, wholeſome counſels
ſcorn'd:
"To the vile haunts of wickedneſs I ran,
"And in all evil was the foremoſt man.
"I mourn—for ever mourn the fatal day,
"When female arts ſedue'd my ſteps aſtray!"
Let this, young man! inſtructive hints im-
part;
Engrave it on the tablet of thy heart:
Avoid the witchcraft of the wanton eye,
Far from her paths, and from her dwelling
fly:
Be not with her ſweet incantations charm'd:
Who can touch fire or burning coals un-
harm'd?
O never on her cates in ſecret feaſt!
O never of her ſtolen waters taſte!
To the ſteep precipice, O draw not near!
As wormwood bitter, cruel as death the fair,
Who by deceit and impudence commands,
Whoſe heart is ſnares and nets, whoſe arms
are bands.
She will ev'n o'er the wiſe and mighty reign,
Many her wounded, many be her ſlain.
They ne'er return who in thoſe paths have
trode;
Outcaſts from life, left and abhor'd of God.
The dead—the dead in her low chambers
dwell,
Her houſe declines unto the depths of hell.

E——r.

On Mr ROBERT FERGUSSON. *By a* LADY.

DEAR ſhepherd *, how came you to ſay
That our grief was ſucceeded by mirth,
When the ſoul of the BARD flew away,
And his body ſcarce cold in the earth.

For myſelf I will anſwer with truth,
Altho' it is twelve years and more
Since wedlock did join me (in youth)
To a ſwain that I love and adore;

Yet ſurely I may be allow'd
Young CORYDON's death to bemoan;
For, amongſt a numerous croud,
I am not dejected alone.

Each night, when the nymphs and gay ſwains
Gather round me to ſpend the cool eve,
I ſilently ſteal from the plains,
And wander away to his grave.

Whilſt thro' the lone church-yard I ſtray,
I gather ſome cypreſs and yew;
Pale Luna's faſt beams ſhow the way
To his grave, where theſe mourners I ſtrew.

When proſtrate I lay on his urn,
Fancy brought all his form to my view;
But, alas! he can never return,
He had wav'd an eternal adieu.

In great perturbation of mind,
I follow'd in hopes to embrace;
But I found that I graſp'd at the wind,
Tho' fancy ſtill view'd the dear face:

Then ſhaking his head, ſeem'd to mourn,
Saying, STELLA, go home to thy love:
Thy CORYDON ne'er can return,
He's ſinging with ſeraphs above.

The garland I wore he did make
With buds from his own, he did ſay:
While he liv'd I did wear't for his ſake,
But now I will throw it away.

His wreath ſweetly bloſſom'd at morn,
While on his dear brow it did ſit;
But at eve thrown into his urn,
No brow but his own it would fit.

That wreath by the muſes was giv'n;
They with myrtles immortal did twine;
And now he's immortal in heav'n,
While his works will immortally ſhine.

Edin. Nov. 7. STELLA.

* *The gentleman who ſigns* C. K. [P. 177.]

THE REVIEW.

An ACCOUNT *of a* NEW DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT, *performed on Saturday*, Nov. 5. *at Drury-Lane Theatre, called the* MAID of the OAKS.

The PRINCIPAL PERSONS *of the* DRAMA:

MEN.

Oldworth,	Mr Aikin.
Sir Harry Groveby,	Mr Brereton.
Old Groveby, Uncle to *Sir Harry*,	Mr King.
Dupely,	Mr Dodd.
O'Daub,	Mr Moody.
Hurry,	Mr Weſton.

WOMEN.

Lady Bab Lardoon,	Mrs Abingdon.
Maria,	Mrs Baddely.

The FABLE is as follows:

MR Oldworth, a gentleman of family and opulent fortune, retires ſoon after the death of an amiable wife to a ſeat called Oldworth's Oaks. His character is that of the moſt extenſive benevolence and hoſpitality, with a cultivated mind and a turn of diſpoſition bordering upon the romantic; and theſe qualities are ſuppoſed to give a caſt of manners to his tenants and neighbours that make the country round him a ſecond Arcadia.

In this retreat has been educated Maria, with every care to render her as accompliſhed as ſhe is beautiful. She is ſtill better known by the appellation of the Maid of the Oaks, which Oldworth had been fond of calling her from her infancy. She is ſuppoſed to be his ward, left an orphan to his care by a deceaſed friend.

Sir Harry Groveby, a young man of good perſon and character, and poſſeſſing an ample fortune, in a progreſs of amuſement viſits Oldworth's Oaks, ſees Maria and falls in love. He lays his rank and fortune at her feet; but Oldworth, though ſecretly charmed with the generoſity and diſintereſtedneſs of his offer, puts his ſincerity to the probation of ſix months abſence, and againſt the expiration of that time prepares for celebrating the wedding upon a plan ſuited, as he expreſſes it, to the ideas of a better age.

The point of time in which the piece opens, is the morning of the wedding-day; and the ſubſtance of the above is briefly related in a converſation between Sir Harry Groveby and Mr Dupely, his friend, juſt arrived from travel, full of all the faſhionable prejudices in favour of foreign education and above all; conceited with his knowledge of womankind, and convinced that there is not one of the ſex cunning enough to impoſe upon him.

Mr Oldworth is introduced in the above ſcene, and the converſation is interrupted by the entrance of Hurry, whoſe character is that of a buſtling, well-meaning, reſtleſs fellow, an upper ſervant in the family, eager to do every thing, and often doing nothing, and his head quite turned with his preparations of the Fete Champetre.

Maria does not appear till the ſecond act, and her firſt ſcene tends to diſplay the delicacy, ſenſibility, and propriety, with which the author evidently meant to adorn her character. Lady Bab Lardoon is introduced in the ſame act. She is upon a viſit in the neighbourhood, and conſequently an invited gueſt to the Fete Champetre. She is deſcribed as an epitome, or rather a caricature of very fine life, and exhibits a picture of the reigning foibles of the ſuperior ſet; for Lady Bab declares ſhe means no other.

Another principal character in the piece is that of Old Groveby, uncle to Sir Harry, the ſtriking features of which are impetuoſity, good humour, and plain rough honeſty; a man who does the kindeſt things with a ſort of fourneſs in his tone and geſture which would make you think he meant quite the contrary.

Old Groveby having heard that his nephew was upon the brink of ruin, in going to eſpouſe a deſerted pennyleſs girl, arrives poſt at the gate juſt as the entertainment commences, but is refuſed admittance by Hurry, the head ſervant and laughable maſter of the ceremonies at the Oaks, on account of his dirty appearance; however, making himſelf known, he is admitted, and preſently meets with Maria alone in a remote part of the gardens. After ſome apology for his intruſion, he informs her of the nature of his buſineſs, and aſks her if ſhe knows the young ſly baggage who had trapanned his nephew, and whether ſhe did not think it a very unequal match? Maria's modeſt account of her own merit leads him into further perplexities, and confirms his ſuſpicions; he therefore threat-

ens to diſinherit his nephew, ſhould he not inſtantly renounce the connection; intimating at the ſame time, that *her* ſincerity had ſo won upon him, that he ſhould have no objection to take her to Broomſtock Hall, and make her Sir Harry's aunt; Sir Harry at this inſtant arrives, and Maria, unable to ſtand the ſcene, retires. However, after a ſhort ſcene of croſs purpoſes, the uncle is convinced of the impropriety of his prejudices, approves of his nephew's choice, and being ſupplied with a dreſs, joins the general feſtivity. After ſome ſuperb exhibitions of tranſparent ſcenery, ſeveral characteriſtic airs, and elegant dances, Mr Oldworth, no longer able to ſuppreſs the tranſports of his ſoul, to the aſtoniſhment of all preſent, proclaims Maria to be his only daughter and heireſs, and as ſuch gives her to Sir Harry. After a dance of Cupids, Hymen, &c. offering them eternal wreaths, the Druid of the Oaks, freed by the preſent powers of beauty, from that ſequeſtered habitation to which, by myſtic ſpells, he had long been doomed, appears to ratify their union, and aſtoniſhes the ſpectators by his magic influence, in a glorious viſion of that felicity the virtues of the happy pair had ſo juſtly inſured. An admirable Vaudeville, and a grand dance, conclude the dramatic entertainment.

The general caſt of the dialogue is what is called genteel. The incidents, in which the ſeveral characters are engaged, are few, ſome comic, and one pathetic. The moral is to give encouragement to diſintereſted love.

The plot in a great meaſure cloſes in the fourth act, and the fifth is chiefly compounded of ſcenery, muſic, and dancing, introduced as a celebration of the wedding of the Maid of the Oaks; but the idea of this act is taken in many parts from a maſque at the famous Fete Champetre given by a noble lord laſt ſummer.

Such are the outlines of the Maid of the Oaks; and the author, by chuſing a ſtory with ſo few incidents, ſeems to be a lover of ſimplicity, and to have wiſhed to produce that chaſte and polite ſpecies of comedy, of which there are not many examples upon the Engliſh ſtage.

This performance is ſo ſingular in its kind, and ſo entertaining throughout, that it cannot fail to be received with that increaſing *eclat* due to a performance got up with ſo much attention, and repreſented at ſuch an infinite expence.

A very humorous prologue was ſpoken by Mr King, in the character of Modern Fame, equipped with a poſt horn, and a jacket compoſed of the fragments of various news papers, with Fete Champetre labelled on the front of his cap. An epilogue likewiſe was delivered by Mrs Abingdon, comparing the reſolutions of the audience to thoſe of the Britiſh parliament. She aſſumed with great pleaſantry the character of the noble Speaker, and put the queſtion, "whether the bill ſhould paſs" for the author to "poſſeſs Parnaſs;" which paſſed in the affirmative, the "ayes carrying it." They are both, from their abundant humour, evidently the production of Mr Garrick.

Every performer deſerved the warmeſt approbation for his attention to his duty. The muſic was in general very pleaſing. The principal movement in the overture will ever do honour to Mr Bartholemon's taſte.

The dancing by Mr Slingſby and Signiora Hidden was uncommonly fine.

The deſigns of Loutherburgh and the execution of Meſſ. French, Roger, and Grienwood, excited admiration.

The following are ſome of the Airs that were moſt particularly admired.

SONG. By Mrs BADDELEY.

I.

COME ſing round my favourite tree,
Ye ſongſters that viſit the grove;
'Twas the haunt of my ſhepherd and me;
And the bark is a record of love.

II.

Reclin'd on the turf, by my ſide,
He tenderly pleaded his cauſe;
I only with bluſhes replied,
And the nightingale fill'd up the pauſe;

DA CAPO. *Come ſing round*, &c.

SONG. By Mr VERNON, Mrs SMITH, &c.

Mrs SMITH.

Breezes that attend the ſpring,
Bear the ſound on roſy wing;
Waft the ſwelling notes away,
'Tis Maria's wedding day.

CHORUS of Female Voices.

Spread the tidings o'er the plain,
Call around each maid and ſwain,
Dreſs'd in garlands freſh and gay,
'Tis Maria's bridal day.

Mrs VERNON.

Hence ſuſpicion, envy, ſtrife,
Ev'ry ill that poiſons life,
Skulking vice, and ſpecious art,
All that ſpoils or cheats the heart,

CHORUS of Men.

Here the chaſten'd loves invite,
Harmleſs dalliance, pure delight,
Choral ſonnet, feſtive play,
'Tis Maria's bridal day.

Mr VERNON.

Plenty come with ceaſeleſs hoard,
Mirth to crown the evening board,
Truth the nuptial bed to guard,
Joy and peace, its bright reward.

Mrs SMITH.

But the chief invited gueſt,
Health, in roſy mantle dreſt,
Come, and with a lengthen'd ſtay,
Make her life a bridal day.

CHORUS.

Spread the tidings o'er the plain,
Call around each maid and ſwain,
Dreſs'd in garlands freſh and gay,
'Tis Maria's bridal day.

A HUNTING SONG.

By Mrs WRIGHTEN, in the character of DIANA.

I.

Come rouſe from your trances,
The ſly morn advances,
To catch ſluggiſh mortals in bed;
Let the horn's jocund note,
In the wind ſweetly float.
While the fox from the brake lifts his head,
Now creeping,
Now peeping,
The fox from the brake lifts his head;
Each away to his ſteed,
Your goddeſs ſhall lead,
Come follow, my worſhippers, follow;
For the chace all prepare,
See the hounds ſnuff the air, [hollow!
Hark, hark, to the huntſman's ſweet

II.

Hark, Jowler! hark, Rover!
See Reynard breaks cover,
The hunters fly over the ground;
Now they ſkim o'er the plain,
Now they dart down the lane,
And the hills, woods, and vallies reſound;
With daſhing,
And ſplaſhing,
The hills, woods, and vallies reſound;
Then away with full ſpeed,
Your goddeſs ſhall lead,
Come follow, my worſhippers, follow;
O'er hedge, ditch, and gate,
If you ſtop you're too late: [hollow!
Hark, hark, to the huntſman's ſweet

CHORUS.

Then away with full ſpeed,
Your goddeſs ſhall lead,
Come follow, my worſhippers, follow;
O'er hedge, ditch, and gate,
If you ſtop you're too late!
Hark, hark, to the huntſman's ſweet hollow!

VAUDEVILLE.

Sung by Mrs DAVIES, Mr VERNON, Mrs SMITH, and Mrs WRIGHTEN.

I.

Ye fine fangled folks, who from cities and courts,
By your preſence enliven the fields,
Accept for your welcome our innocent ſports,
And the fruits that our induſtry yields.
No temple we raiſe to the idol of wealth,
No altar to intereſt ſmoaks,
To the bleſſing of love, kind ſeaſons and health,
Is devoted the Feaſt of the Oaks.

II.

From the thicket and plain, each favourite haunt,
The villagers haſten away,
Your encouraging ſmile is the bounty they want,
To compenſate the toils of the day.
The milk-maid abandons her pail and her cow,
In the furrow, the ploughman unyokes,
From the valley and meadow all preſs to the brow,
To aſſiſt at the Feaſt of the Oaks.

III.

The precept we teach is contentment and truth,
That our girls may not learn to beguile,
By reaſon to govern the pleaſures of youth,
And decorate age with a ſmile.
No ſerpent approaches with venomous tooth,
No raven with ominous croaks,
Nor rancorous critic, more fatal than both,
Shall poiſon the Feaſt of the Oaks.

IV.

Bring roſes and myrtles, new circlets to wave,
Ply the flutes in new meaſures to move,
And lengthen the ſong to the ſtar of the eve,
The favouring planet of love.
Oh Venus! propitious attend to the lay,
Each ſhepherd the bleſſing invokes;
May he who is true, like the youth of to-day,
Find a prize like the Maid of the Oaks!

HISTORY OF THE TIMES.

NOVEMBER 10.—*to* 17.

TURKEY.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Grand Cairo, in Egypt, to his friend in London, dated Auguſt 24. 1774.

"LORD Algernon Percy (ſecond ſon to the duke of Northumberland) being at Alexandria on his travels, received an invitation from Mahomet Bey, who now governs Egypt, to come up to ſee Cairo. He accordingly, with Mr John Smith Barry, and the Engliſh conſul, together with ſix other gentlemen, ſet out for Roſetto, where they reſted two days to refreſh themſelves. Here they were viſited by the Chiaux *, who was ſent by the bey for that purpoſe; His lordſhip paſſing under the title of an Engliſh bey, or lord. He then took boats for Cairo, and at his arrival at Bulac †, near that city, was met by an officer from Mahomet Bey, with 20 janiſaries ‡, to attend his lordſhip, and two horſes very richly capariſoned, which were ſent as preſents to him and Mr Barry. From hence they proceeded to Cairo on horſeback, where no Chriſtians are ever ſuffered to ride on horſes. In paſſing through the ſtreets of Cairo, when any Turks were met on aſſes, as is common in Egypt, they were obliged to diſmount till he and his company paſſed by (an honour always paid to the beys of that country, but which never before was ſhewn to any Chriſtian); and, if they did not immediately diſmount, as ſome of them did not, ſeeing them to be Chriſtians, they were knocked off by the janiſaries. At Cairo his lordſhip was lodged in a large houſe, furniſhed by order of the bey for his reception. Proviſions of all ſorts in great abundance were ſent thither every day by the bey's order, and ten janiſaries to attend the gate, or to wait on his lordſhip whenever he went out. Towards the evening after their arrival, three ſhauls § were ſent them to wear round their heads, valued at 80 zekins * each, with liberty to his lordſhip and all his company to wear what dreſs they pleaſed during their ſtay; a privilege not granted to any Chriſtians in that country. Here his lordſhip was welcomed to Cairo, on the part of the bey, by the Doganier, or farmer of the cuſtoms; as alſo by all the Frank conſuls, and merchants of note reſiding there. After ſtaying ſome days to refreſh themſelves, they were invited to the country houſe and gardens of Achmet Chiaux at Jaza †, to be near to view the pyramids. In conſequence of this obliging invitation, they ſet out, and were received on the other ſide of the Nile by the Chiaux's Haſander, or captain of the ſlaves. When they alighted, they were received by the Chiaux himſelf in his gardens, and coffee and ſherbet were immediately preſented to all the company. At each meal at leaſt fifty diſhes, all in the Turkiſh taſte, were ſerved up at the Chiaux's expence; and the Haſander and ſlaves were diligent to wait on them. The next day they were all mounted on horſes to go to the pyramids at Jacara, attended by the Haſander and ſlaves, well mounted. They were followed by camels loaded with proviſions of all kinds, and tents to ſet up in the deſarts. When they arrived at Jacara, they were joined by about fifty Arabs, well mounted; and with this retinue went to the pyramids and catacombs; the Arabs having orders from the bey to ſeek for mummies for them both of men and birds. The ſame evening they returned back to Jaza, to the Chiaux's. After reſting another day,

* *A Chiaux is an officer in the Turkiſh government, who is uſually ſent as envoy or ambaſſador to princes.*

† *Bulac is a port on the river Nile, two miles from Cairo.*

‡ *Janiſaries are well known to be the foot guards of the grand ſignior and his princes.*

§ *Shauls, or ſhols, are coloured turbans, made in India, and brought to Cairo by way of the Red Sea. They compoſe the finer ſort of turbans, which Chriſtians are allowed to wear, white turbans being peculiar to the Turks.*

* *The zermahoop zekin, or chequin, is worth about* 6s. 10d.; *ſo that each ſhaul was worth about* 27l. 10s. *of our money.*

† *Jaza, or rather Gaza, is a delightful village oppoſite to Old Cairo, which latter place is near an hour's ride from Grand Cairo.*

they went to see the great pyramid of Jaza, the Sphinx, &c. accompanied as before. They returned again to the Chaux's, and staid there all the following day, proceeding the next morning back to Cairo. After resting two days, his lordship was shewn the castle, Joseph's well, the divan, &c.; and the next day his lordship, Mr Barry, and their company, all richly dressed in the Turkish manner, paid a visit to Mahomet Bey himself, who received them very politely, attended by all his officers and slaves. He made his lordship sit down by him on the same sofa, and caused all the company to be seated likewise, when they were entertained with coffee, sherbet, perfumes, &c. At their going away, his lordship, Mr Barry, Mr Macri the consul, and Mr Spiller, a young gentleman who had joined his lordship in his travels, were presented with rich pelices ‡, and then returned, attended by the janisaries, &c. as before."

RUSSIA.

Hague, Nov. 1. "Prince Gallitzin, envoy extraordinary from the empress of Russia to this republic, has received an authentic letter from his court, dated Oct. 11. of which the following is an extract:

"By our last we informed your excellency, that, according to advices received, Pugatcheffe, chief of the rebels, had been secured and bound by his people, in order to his being delivered up to us. This moment we received a confirmation that this villain has been put into the hands of the commander of Yaik. He will now be sent to Moscow, where he will undergo a punishment adequate to his crimes, which makes humanity shudder!

"Our troops are actually taking the winter-quarters which were assigned them after the conclusion of the peace. —We hear that field-marshal count de Romanzow is intirely recovered. That general is preparing to go to Moscow to receive, from the hands of Catharine the Great, the rewards due to his bravery."

‡ *Pelices, or peleeces, are upper garments lined with rich furs, worn by the Turks. Those used by persons of distinction are worth from* 200 to 400 *l. sterling and upwards each.*

GERMANY.

Hamburgh, Oct. 25. "Commerce and despotism can never agree together in one country, let it be ever so well. The northern Alexander, however great a warrior and politician he is, his views to render his barren dominions commercial will never succeed, so long as he extends despotism to the highest degree; and who will intrust his property in a country where so powerful and despotic, and so lawless a prince reigns? For instance, a marine company was established in his dominions within these three or four years. As soon as he found the company successful, and paying annually a dividend of 12 *per cent.* he immediately ingrossed as much of the stocks as he could, and took about two-thirds of the whole into his own hands: But what was the consequence? The merchants finding that, after all their labour, the prince took the fruits of their harvest, they resolved to destroy it intirely; and M. de L—tt—t, the president of that company, absconded, a few days ago, with the whole treasure and best effects of the company: The stocks of course lost their credit, and the company is intirely ruined."

FRANCE.

Paris, Oct. 27. "One of the letters addressed by the king to the members of the antient parliament is just made public. It is dated Fontainbleau, Oct. 21. and runs as follows:

"Having judged it proper to revoke the orders that were sent you to retire to ——, I write you this letter to tell you to be at Paris, the 9th of November next, in your house, there to wait my orders. Upon which I pray God to take you, Sir, into his holy keeping.

(Signed) Louis."

SPAIN.

Cadiz, Oct. 1. "The orders which the intendants of the Office of Health had received to cause all ships coming from the Baltic sea, and especially from the coasts of Russia, to perform quarantine, have been lately revoked by the court. In consequence of which, five or six Dutch, Hamburgh, and Danish ships, which were in the bay, are now admitted to trade without restraint."

Madrid, Oct. 15. "The Count de Grantham, ambaſſador at this place from England, receives frequent diſpatches from his court, which are ſaid to be relative to the differences ariſen with reſpect to a new fortreſs, which the Engliſh East India Company has cauſed to be built on the iſland of Balambanca.—We learn from Cadiz, that the Phœnix ſhip of war, of eighty guns, and three frigates of thirty-two guns each, are ready to ſail for America.

AMERICA.

New-London, Sept. 5. "Laſt Tueſday ſe'ennight, col. Willard, one of the new council, came to Union to do ſome buſineſs; when two gentlemen belonging to Windham, who had been his attornies in a cauſe, met him and publicly refuſed to aſſiſt him any more, as they looked upon him to be a traitor to his country. The people roſe, took and confined him one night, then carried him to Bainfield, where the province people, about 400 in number, met them; they called a council of themſelves, and condemned col. Willard to Newgate priſon, in Symſbury, and a number ſet off with, and carried him ſix miles on the way thither. Col. Willard then ſubmitted to take the oath they required, on which they diſmiſſed him. One capt Davis, of Brimfield, was preſent, who ſhewed reſentment, and treating the people with bad language, they ſtripped him, and gave him the new faſhioned dreſs of tar and feathers."

Boſton, Sept. 29. "This day his excellency the governor iſſued the following proclamation.

"Whereas on the firſt day of Sept. inſt. I thought fit to iſſue writs, for calling a great and general court, or aſſembly, to be convened and held at Salem, in the county of Eſſex, on the 5th day of October next; and whereas from the many tumults and diſorders which have ſince taken place, the extraordinary reſolves which have been paſſed in many of the counties, the inſtructions given by the town of Boſton and ſome other towns to their repreſentatives, and the preſent diſordered and unhappy ſtate of the province, it appears to me highly inexpedient that a great and general court ſhould be convened at the time aforeſaid; but that a ſeſſion, at ſome more diſtant day, will beſt tend to promote his majeſty's ſervice, and the good of the province.

"I have therefore thought fit to declare my intention, not to meet the ſaid general court at Salem, on the ſaid 5th day of Oct. next. And I do hereby excuſe and diſcharge all ſuch perſons as have been, or may be elected and deputed repreſentatives to ſerve at the ſame, from giving their attendance, any thing in the aforeſaid writs contained to the contrary notwithſtanding; whereof all concerned are to take notice, and govern themſelves accordingly. THOMAS GAGE."

New-York, Sept. 29. "At a meeting of the committee of mechanics of this city, at the houſe of Mr David Phillips, a letter to them was received from the mechanics of the town of Boſton, which being read, it was reſolved unanimouſly, that the ſame be printed, and is as follows:

To the committee of mechanics of the city of New-York.

Boſton, Sept. 8. 1774.

"GENTLEMEN,

"General Gage being determined to cut off the communication of this town with the country, by fortifying the ſole paſs between them by land, has applied to ſeveral tradeſmen in this town, and found none baſe enough to engage in ſo villainous an enterprize: And, it is now ſaid, he intends to ſend to New-York for workmen to compleat his deſigns; our tradeſmen therefore, apprehending that your zeal for the common ſafety is not leſs to be depended upon than their own, requeſted us to give you the earlieſt intimation of the matter, that you might take your meaſures accordingly.

"We cannot entertain a doubt but the tradeſmen of New-York will treat an application of this kind as it deſerves. The ſubject is of the laſt importance; and for any one part of America to ſhew a readineſs to comply with meaſures deſtructive of any other part, will inevitably deſtroy that confidence ſo neceſſary to the common ſalvation. We are,

Gentlemen,

Your friends and fellow-countrymen,

By order of the committee,

JOHN WARREN, Chairman."

"Upon which it was unanimouſly reſolved, that the thanks of this committee be returned to thoſe worthy mechanics of this city, who have declined to aid or aſſiſt in the erection of fortifications on Boſton Neck, which, when compleated, would probably be improved to ſpill the blood of their fellow-ſubjects in the Maſſachuſett's-bay."

New-York, Sept. 19. "A paper printed at Norwich in Connecticut, contains the following propoſal:—"Since the grand American controverſy grows, and daily appears more and more ſerious, whether it is not expedient, very important and neceſſary, for the colonies forthwith to raiſe an army of obſervation, and ſend it near the expected ſcene of action, and let them be increaſed from time to time as our enemies increaſe, and kept in conſtant exerciſe and diſcipline. A preparation and readineſs for the defenſive or offenſive operations may, and often has, prevented the neceſſity of execution; but if neceſſity does take place, as there is great probability it will, ſhould we not, in ſuch a caſe, be in an infinitely better ſituation than to have our ſcattered forces (though almoſt innumerable) to collect from all parts of the continent, after our antagoniſts are well fortified, their numbers full, and have ſtruck ſome important and fatal blow."

NEWS *from the* GENERAL CONGRESS.

"RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

"That the congreſs requeſt the merchants and others in the ſeveral colonies not to ſend to Great Britain any order for goods, and to direct the execution of all orders already ſent to be delayed or ſuſpended, until the ſenſe of this congreſs, on the means to be taken for the preſervation of the liberties of America, is made public.

"Extracted from the minutes,

C. THOMSON, clerk."

September 22.

Sept. 29. "The congreſs agreed unanimouſly to a non-importation agreement, but the particulars will not be known until the arrival of the next Philadelphia ſhip.

"On the 29th of Sept. there was a meeting of the inhabitants of Boſton at Fanueil-hall, when they re-choſe the hon. JOHN HANCOCK, Eſq; one of their repreſentatives to attend the general aſſembly, ſummoned to meet at Salem on Nov. 5. and at the ſame time inſtructed him, "To be guided in all his actions by the antient laws and charters of the province, and not to pay any attention to the new fangled laws of a corrupt adminiſtration, whoſe ſole aim was to make the Americans as great ſlaves as they had made the people of England."

Philadelphia, Sept. 29. "The congreſs have paſſed the vote for an abſolute non-importation: The particulars will be made public to-morrow or next day. Capt. Eyres, who was to ſail for London this morning, is detained to take the account with him."

New-York, Oct. 6. "His honour the lieut. governor has been pleaſed to prorogue the general aſſembly to the 2d of November, and to iſſue a proclamation expreſſive of his majeſty's diſallowance of "an act to continue and 'amend an act intitled, An act for the 'more effectual puniſhment of perſons 'who ſhall be guilty of any of the treſ-'paſſes therein mentioned, in the cities 'of New-York and Albany, and town-'ſhip of Shenectady."

"A large quantity of ſtraw, purchaſed for the troops, has lately been intirely conſumed by fire in the town of Boſton.—A guard is placed at the door of every gentleman lately called up to the council board in Boſton, by his majeſty's mandamus; and a patrole of the military conſtantly do duty every night in the ſtreet.

"By a letter from Philadelphia we are informed, that, ſince the general opinion that a non-importation would be adopted by the congreſs, the article of gun powder had been advanced to 20 l. per cwt. pepper to 3 s. 6 d. per lb. and pins to 15 s. a pack."

Quebec, Sept. 16. On the 14th inſt. arrived his excellency governor Carleton, with his lady and family. All the native Canadians, as well clergy as laity, are now become the happieſt people in the world: their gratitude to the king and parliament is not to be expreſſed. The Quebec bill gives great ſatisfaction here, except to ſome individuals, whoſe intereſt is affected by its operation."

ENGLAND.

LONDON, NOV. 5.——to 12.

In the night of Sept. 24. a houſe took fire at Kropelin, in the duchy of Mecklenburgh, and the flames ſpreading in a violent manner, moſt of the town was burnt down. Eighty houſes were conſumed, and the inhabitants obliged to leave all their effects to ſave their lives.

Several letters from Rome, and other parts of Italy, all agree in the account of an extraordinary woman at Rome, whoſe name is Thereſa Senſari, in appearance a gentlewoman, of about ſixty

years of age, a church-going devotee, and a widow of a ſmall, though ſufficient fortune; has no family but one woman ſervant. This gentlewoman foretold, or rather prophecied (for they call her a propheteſs), that the late kings of Sardinia and France, likewiſe the late Pope, ſhould die at the three different periods of time which ſhe marked down; and told every body with frankneſs the day that each would die. At firſt, when ſhe propagated this ſtrange ſtory, people looked on her as a mad woman, and ridiculed her in every company (for ſhe viſited ſeveral genteel families): but when the king of Sardinia died on the very day ſhe had foretold, people began to give credit to her prophecy. Cardinal Albani, in a jocular way, told this unaccountable ſtory to the late Pope, and his holineſs laughed it off with the cardinal. This woman ſtill perſiſted that the king of France would die on the day that ſhe had before mentioned; and which, to the aſtoniſhment of every body, happened exactly on the very day; for ſhe had ſaid to ſeveral perſons, "the king of France would die this day (the day it happened)." Several people took notice of this, and were in great expectation for the French poſt, to know the truth of it; when, to their great ſurpriſe, they found it true! This did make a great noiſe, particularly at Rome—Cardinal Albani then ſent his coach to fetch her to him, if ſhe pleaſed to come; ſhe would not accept of his coach, but came immediately a-foot. The Cardinal aſked her, "whether it was true that ſhe had foretold ſuch ſtrange events?" She replied in the affirmative. "Pray, Madam (ſaid the cardinal), how came you to know ſuch things, for it is incomprehenſible to me how you ſhould tell ſuch events?" "Wonder not, my lord (ſaid ſhe), for God knows every thing, and it is from him alone that I know it." Though the cardinal argued a long while with her, he could get no other anſwer from her than the above. The cardinal went immediately to the Pope, and acquainted him with every particular, when his holineſs deſired to ſpeak with her. She went immediately, and the Pope took her gently by the hand, and ſaid, "My bleſſing on thee, honeſt woman; I am told that you have knowledge of future events, and that you have foretold the deaths of the king of Sardinia, the king of France, and mine; and the two firſt you have gueſſed right at." "May it pleaſe your holineſs, it was no gueſs, but I was as ſure of it as I am here; for God told me preciſely to a day." "Good woman (ſaid the Pope, ſtill holding her hand), I muſt not be put off with ſuch ſtories; I declare before my friends here, that I will do you no manner of harm; nay, I will reward you if you will tell me the truth." To which ſhe anſwered, "May it pleaſe your holineſs, I have told you nothing but the truth; ſo help me God." The Pope then ſaid, dropping her hand, "Is that all you can ſay for yourſelf?" "That is all (ſaid ſhe); and your holineſs may reſt aſſured it will be as God told me." "Well then, good woman, you ſhall go to, and remain in priſon till then; we ſhall know whether you are a good or a bad propheteſs." The Pope then ordered her to be impriſoned in the caſtle of St Angelo, where ſhe remains to this day. She was not in the leaſt diſmayed at her ſentence; and when coming out of the room, ſhe only ſaid, "God's will be done!" The Pope gave orders that proper care ſhould be taken of her, and to let her want for nothing. She has been viſited by vaſt numbers of people of every denomination, and they never have heard her complain of her ſituation, ſhe preſerving the ſame tranquillity ſhe ever did, and ſtill perſiſts in her former ſtory.

The Pope died the very day ſhe foretold.

She has often been aſked by ladies and gentlemen, at divers times, whether ſhe could foretel when ſhe would be releaſed, and ſhe ſaid, "No; God has not told me yet." She always bore a very good character: there are people at Rome who have known her from her infancy, and all ſay that ſhe has been eſteemed by her acquaintance, and that ſhe was looked upon as a juſt, modeſt, and religious woman.

Strange as this ſtory may appear, yet it has been corroborated by a number of letters from ſeveral parts of Italy, and they all agree and confirm the ſame. The people at Rome are in great expectation to know what the new Pope will do with her.

Letters from Cadiz, dated Oct. 11. ſay, "From the coaſt of Morocco we have advice that an Engliſh ſhip, eſcorted by a frigate, arrived at Tangier the beginning of Auguſt, and had brought back Sidi

Tahar Fenis, whom the emperor, ſome time ſince, charged with a commiſſion for England. His Britannic majeſty hath, on this occaſion, ſent to the Mooriſh prince a preſent, which conſiſts of nineteen mortars with their carriages, 2250 bombs, thirty iron cannons with their carriages likewiſe, four cheſts of matches, 3200 bullets, and twenty-five bales, containing pieces of ſilver plate, mathematical inſtruments, ſabres, fuſees, china, woolen, clothes, linens, and divers other effects. Sidi Tahar Fenis hath brought beſides, two braſs cannons, twenty-four pounders, which were recaſt in England from ſome old cannon out of the emperor's arſenal."

Letters from Bombay, by the Vanſittart Eaſt-Indiaman, capt. Young, who is arrived at Plymouth, ſay, that there is a fleet of piratical veſſels cruizing about Caronja iſland, which plunder all the country ſhips they meet with, and ſend the goods up into the country, and diſpoſe of them to the natives. Theſe veſſels are manned partly with Dutch, the reſt are Indians; ſome of the head officers are Iriſh: that there is about ſix ſail, which carry from thirty to forty guns; they are not ſwift ſailing veſſels, being Dutch built, ſo that two or three men of war, properly ſtationed, would ſoon put an end to their trade. The ſame letters ſay, that they have carried on the above trade for ſome time, to the great loſs of many merchants, who are fitting out ſome armed veſſels to ſcour thoſe ſeas of them.

A letter from New York, dated Oct. 6. ſays, "We hear that the regiment of militia of the county of Providence in Rhode Iſland will be put on ſo reſpectable a footing, as to be prepared for any emergency. A troop of horſe is likewiſe to be raiſed there immediately.—The inhabitants of Eaſt Greenwich, Pawtuxet, Warren, and ſome other towns, are alſo about forming themſelves into companies and reviving a military ſpirit, ſo neceſſary and commendable at this time of public danger.

Upon a late ſurvey at the Tower, it appeared that there have been delivered into his majeſty's ordnance at that place, upward of 60,000 muſkets in the courſe of the laſt two years, which is a greater number than ever there was a demand for before in ſo ſhort a time in peace.

On Friday John Wilkes, Eſq; lord mayor elect for the year enſuing, was ſworn at Guildhall, when the chair and other enſigns of mayoralty were ſurrendered to him in the accuſtomed manner.

On Saturday, the new lord mayor, accompanied by the late lord mayor, ſome of the aldermen, the recorder, and ſheriffs, in their ſcarlet gowns, went in their coaches to the water-ſide, the ſword and mace being carried before them, and the city officers attending; and from thence proceeded in the city barge, attended by ſeveral companies in their reſpective barges, adorned with ſtreamers and pendants, to Weſtminſter; and having walked round the hall, and ſolemnly ſaluted all the courts, they went to the exchequer bar, and the new lord mayor did there take the oaths appointed; and, having recorded warrants of attorney in the proper courts, returned by water to Black Fryars, and from thence in coaches, with the uſual ſolemnity, to Guildhall, where a magnificent entertainment was provided. *L. Gaz.*

On Wedneſday the 9th inſt. at the public office in Bow-ſtreet, Mr Hart, writer in Edinburgh, charged David Mayne, a late clerk of his, with feloniouſly ſtealing two rings, a watch chain, and ſome papers, his property. Mr Hart depoſed that he purſued the priſoner from Edinburgh to London, and there found ſome part of his property upon him. A great altercation enſued, whether he ſhould be committed here, or tranſmitted to Scotland to take his trial, or admitted to bail; at laſt the bench determined to bind over Mr Hart to proſecute him here, and as they did not think fit to take upon themſelves to admit the priſoner to bail, ordered him to be committed, and an immediate copy of his committal to be given to his counſel, in order to bring him by the *habeas corpus* act to the king's bench, for the determination of lord Mansfield, whether he will admit him to bail or not. *L. Chr.*

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH, NOVEMBER 17.

On Wedneſday ſe'en-night, as ſome workmen were repairing an old houſe in Dalkeith, the gavel fell down, and killed two on the ſpot. Two others were much bruiſed, one of whom has ſince died, and there are but ſmall hopes of the recovery of the ſurvivor.

On Tueſday the beſt oat-meal ſell a

halfpenny per peck in this market. It now ſells at one ſhilling.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

"I SAW, in your Magazine, dated Oct. 13. P. 79. a paper ſigned *A* NORLAND, wherein he ſeems to throw out ſome falſehoods aimed at me. It is the part of a coward to attack one privately; but if he chuſes to ſign his own real name, I can, and will anſwer him; but if his name muſt be kept a ſecret, then I aver that no gentleman is bound to anſwer any thing that is wrote by a perſon aſhamed of ſigning it.

Yours, &c. WILL. INNES."

Sandſide, Nov. 2.

On Tueſday came on at the palace of Holyrood-houſe, the election of ſixteen noblemen to repreſent the peerage of Scotland in the enſuing parliament.

A liſt of the ſixteen Scots peers was ſent by the ſecretary of ſtate, to all the Scots peers for their nomination. Upon the earl of Morton's death, who was in the liſt, a letter was ſent, deſiring them to chuſe the earl of Aberdeen in his place—Upon the duke of Athole's death, who was alſo in the liſt, a third letter was ſent, deſiring them to chuſe the earl of Caſſilis; in oppoſition to whom, the patriotic and independent peers ſet up the earl of Eglinton.

After the oaths were put to the peers preſent, the duke of Buccleugh gave in a paper to the clerk, which he deſired to be minuted, ſignifying his diſapprobation of the unconſtitutional interference of the miniſtry, with regard to the Scots peers, and the inſult thereby put upon them; and declared that he voted for the liſt which he named, freely and independently.

The earl of Haddington, in a manly ſpeech, ſhewed his abhorrence of the miniſterial meaſures, and declared, that although he had a great regard for many of the noblemen nominated by the miniſtry, yet he would not vote for any of them, excepting lord Breadalbane, who had teſtified his diſapprobation of the miniſterial liſts, and was nominated on the occaſion by the miniſtry, unſollicited by him.

The earl of Haddington voted for the earls of Breadalbane and Eglinton only.

The earl of Selkirk, in a warm and animated ſpeech, diſplayed that noble ſpirit which he had exerted on former occaſions. His lordſhip, after ſtating the violation done to the conſtitution by the miniſterial interference, and the inſults offered to the Scots peers, moved, that, ſince the efforts made by the peers formerly had not had the deſired effect, a petition might be drawn up by the independent peers, deſiring his majeſty to order his miniſters not to interfere for the future in the election of Scots peers. This motion was ſeconded by the earl of Haddington. The earl of Dalhouſie and lord Cathcart ſaid, this was an improper place and time to diſcuſs any point of that kind; that they would meet at any other place on a future day and give their opinions on the queſtion. At preſent they were no regular court, had no preſes, were ſubjected to no rules, and, were debates of that kind to take place, the greateſt confuſion would enſue, and they would become rather like a Poliſh diet than a meeting of Scots peers.—Lord Selkirk replied, that if the preſent meaſures were allowed to go on, the election of the peers of Scotland would indeed become like a Poliſh diet; but, like it too, he hoped the peers, when their liberties were infringed, would juſtify them with the points of their ſwords.

Lord Selkirk at laſt conſented to this propoſal; ſaid, he hoped the noble lords would call a meeting ſoon, and that it ſhould be in the palace of Holyroodhouſe, as there was no place more fit for telling the king truth than in his own palace.

The duke of Buccleugh ſaid, he did not think *there was any occaſion to call a meeting, or to petition his majeſty*; that he looked upon the miniſter's letter as a perſonal affront, to which he gave an anſwer in ſuch ſtrong terms, that he had not received another, nor believed he ever would; and if every peer would write ſuch an anſwer as he did, he was perſuaded the miniſtry would trouble none of them with ſuch letters any more.

The earl of Aboyne, before voting, delivered his ſentiments in a ſhort, moderate, and genteel ſpeech; in which he ſaid, that he very much felt the indignity done to the peers of Scotland by the miniſterial letter, and would moſt heartily unite with theſe noble lords, who were for taking proper meaſures to put an end to ſo ſhameful an infringement of the freedom of election; that he would vote for the earl of Eglinton, as one who

had ſet up upon an independent footing; that he would alſo vote for the fifteen peers recommended by the miniſtry; becauſe, although he did not like their nomination, yet he conſidered them as very well deſerving the honour of being choſen; that there were no other candidates, and that he did not chuſe to vote for noble lords, who had not aſked to be elected, and to whom it might not be agreeable.

When it came to lord Elibank, his lordſhip ſpoke with his uſual ingenuity and eloquence, to the ſame purpoſe with his ſpirited writings; and then ſaid, as I have taken up too much of your lordſhips' time in ſpeaking, I ſhall take up very little in voting; for I vote only for four, for the earls of Eglinton and Breadalbane, as ſupporters of independency; for the earl of Galloway, becauſe I promiſed to him, before I ſaw his name in the miniſterial liſt; and for lord viſcount Irwin, becauſe a kind of ſlur having been thrown upon his lordſhip as a ſtranger in this country, I am deſirous to wipe it off, ſo far as my vote can go.

The noblemen preſent who voted for the earl of Eglinton were, the duke of Buccleugh, earls of Crawford, Eglinton, Moray, Kelly, Haddington, Galloway, Selkirk, Aboyne, Dundonald, Breadalbane, Hyndford, lord viſc. Irwin, lords Sommerville, Elibank, Kinnaird. Proxies, the earls of Dumfries, Strathmore, Deloraine. Signed liſt, lord Elphinſton.

For the earl of Caſſilis, preſent, duke of Gordon, earls of Errol, Caſſilis, Home, Lauderdale, Loudon, Dalhouſie, Leven, Northeſk, Balcarras, Aberdeen, Roſeberry; lords Forbes, Cathcart, Semple, Colvill, Napier, Kirkcudbright. Proxies, earl of Hopetoun, lords Salton, Belhaven, Ruthven, Rollo. Signed liſts, earls of Abercorn, March, Marchmont, Portmore, Bute, lords Elphinſton, Lindores, Ballindean, Newark.

The numbers were thus, for

E. Eglinton.		E. Caſſilis.	
Preſent	16	Preſent	18
Proxies	3	Proxies	5
Liſt	1	Liſt	9
	20		32

There were alſo two liſts, which had been ſigned before the deaths of the duke of Athole, and the earl of Morton, with their names inſerted. All the peers, except a few, voted for the other fifteen peers, in the ſubſequent liſt.

The ſixteen noblemen elected that day to repreſent the peerage of Scotland in parliament, are,

Duke of Gordon,	Earl of Aberdeen,
Earl of Caſſilis,	Earl of March,
Earl of Strathmore,	E. of Marchmont,
Earl of Abercorn,	Earl of Roſeberry,
Earl of Galloway,	Earl of Bute,
Earl of Loudoun,	L. Viſc. Stormont,
Earl of Dalhouſie,	Lord Viſc. Irwin,
Earl of Breadalbane,	Lord Cathcart.

The earls of Galloway, Dalhouſie, Breadalbane, Aberdeen, and Caſſilis, are the new ones who come in place of the duke of Athole, marquis of Lothian, the earls of Dunmore, Stair, and Errol.

Some time previous to the election, a copy of the following conſiderations, written by lord Elibank, was tranſmitted by poſt to each of the Scots peers.

CONSIDERATIONS *on the preſent ſtate of the* PEERAGE *of* Scotland.

FOR ſome time after the union, the peers of Scotland were conſidered in ſo very reſpectable a light, that, in the year 1708, it was thought neceſſary to paſs an act of parliament, regulating the number of their attendants at their meetings, and reſtraining them, under the ſevereſt penalties, from treating of any ſubject that did not relate immediately to voting at their elections.

It muſt be allowed they have long loſt a great deal of their importance; and at this time it would be thought ridiculous in the legiſlature to apprehend any bad conſequence from their meetings or deliberations.

Their number, it is true, is diminiſhed, but their order is poſſeſſed of a greater ſhare of the property of their country than at the union; and, as the power of chuſing their ſixteen repreſentatives was then divided among 150, and is now confined to little more than 60, this circumſtance ought to add to the importance of the individuals.

This is far from being the caſe; for a Scots peer, whether of the ſixteen or not, is by no means conſidered as a diſtinguiſhed member of the ſtate, independent of other perſonal advantages.

Surely this degradation is not to be imputed to the want of a ſufficient ſhare in the government and legiſlation of this great empire. Sixty Scots peers are veſted with the hereditary and excluſive privilege of conferring the higheſt dignity a Britiſh ſubject is capable of enjoying on ſixteen of their own number.

An Engliſh peer derives his ſeat in the houſe of lords from the king's patent beſtowed on himſelf or his anceſtor; but if a Scots repreſentative was to be really choſen by the free voice of his fellow peers, he would add to the dignity of his title, and the merit of his anceſtors, the approbation of his country diſtinguiſhing him as a perſon qualified to repreſent their whole body in the moſt important of all truſts. This diſtinction would add a luſtre to the patent, ſuperior to every honour the conſtitution of this country admits of.

Noblemen holding this tenure would be conſidered as ſuperior to other members of the houſe of lords; and the power of conferring ſo ſingular a mark of diſtinction would render their electors of the greateſt conſideration.

The ſixteen peers thus elected, would not hold their ſeats on the precarious footing of the approbation or continuance in power of a miniſter. Inſtead of being obliged to pay a ſervile court to him, they would be courted by him, and no change in adminiſtration could affect the ſecurity of their ſeat; it could only be affected by the loſs of the good opinion of their electors, which, as they are few in number, and men of birth and education, no good man would regret to depend on.

Such of the preſent ſixteen as are likely to be choſen on this honourable footing, have a manifeſt intereſt to introduce a method of election, which would at once put them in the moſt reſpectable ſituation, and vindicate them from the mortifying imputation of being choſen merely becauſe the miniſter thought them fit engines to execute his commands.

To form a judgment of what would be the conſequence, if the peers of Scotland were to exert their privilege of chuſing their repreſentatives, it will be proper to conſider it,

1ſt, With relation to the great peers beſt intitled to the mark of diſtinction.

2d, With reſpect to the other Scots peers, their electors.

3d, With reſpect to the whole order in general.

4th, With reſpect to the country they repreſent, as well as England, and the public in general.

5th, With reſpect to his majeſty and the royal authority.

As to the 1ſt, Never was there ſo humbling a degradation as what the Scots peers of the firſt rank and pretenſions ſuffer by the preſent mode of their admittance to the houſe of lords. For the truth of this, one needs but appeal to their own feelings, or to the common eſtimation of mankind.—A Scots peer of the firſt rank is conſidered as an inſtrument ſingled out, and poſted in the houſe of lords, by the appointment of the miniſter at the time, for the end of ſupporting his meaſures, whatever they are, or may be; and who, in caſe of failure, muſt expect to be turned out at the expiration of his term of ſeven years:—He is ſuppoſed to be compoſed of ſuch pliant materials, that, in the event of a change of adminiſtration, the next miniſter makes no doubt of finding him equally obſequious, and ready to renounce his former connections. If he ſhall diſcover the ſmalleſt heſitation or remorſe, or ſhall plead paſt ſervices, he has the example of lord Stair, the duke of Montroſe, the marquis of Tweedale, lord Eglinton, &c. &c. to deter him.

To theſe diſhonourable conditions muſt men of the higheſt quality and fortune ſubmit, if they hope to obtain or preſerve their ſeats in the houſe of lords.

Were the ſame men to owe their ſeats to the free ſuffrages of their peers, their ſituation would be as flattering as it is now contemptible. Birth and fortune, diſtinguiſhed by the approbation of the whole body of their order, would point them out as the moſt reſpectable ſet of men in the kingdom: their weight and influence would be in proportion: they would be honoured and courted by men of all ranks; and their concurrence would become a real ſupport to a miniſter.

2d, As to the inferior Scots peers, the perſons conferring this diſtinguiſhing mark of honour on the other ſixteen; they would derive reputation and protection from their choice; they would be certain of the ſupport of ſixteen of the moſt dignified men in the realm, who would find themſelves intereſted in ſeconding their juſt claims and pretenſions.

At preſent, as the elected owe them no obligation, they are at liberty to neglect them; and, as they are beholden to the miniſter alone for their ſeats, they would be in the wrong to excite his jea-

louſy, by ſeeming to interfere with him in paying court to the electors.

Thus theſe men are weak enough to give up the advantage of ſecuring to themſelves ſixteen certain and powerful protectors, for a precarious dependence on a miniſter, who muſt neceſſarily deſpiſe them, and who can neither have leiſure nor inclination to liſten to their demands.

A Scots peer, loaded with a large family, may want a penſion for himſelf, and a commiſſion in the army for a ſon. Has he a better chance to ſucceed, by applying directly to a miniſter, who knows him not, than by the intereſt of ſixteen men of the moſt elevated rank and dignity, acquainted with his ſituation and pretenſions, and who muſt conſider themſelves as partly beholden to him for the high rank they hold in the commonwealth?

3d, With reſpect to the Scots peerage in general, there can be little doubt, that, if they were to make uſe of their right to chuſe their own repreſentatives, from the moſt contemptible, they would become at once the moſt honoured order of men in the kingdom. No unclean thing could enter through them. No peer from Scotland would appear in the houſe of lords to diſgrace his rank, and belie his patent. The check of keeping ſuch men at home, and ſending only ſuch as had the teſt of public approbation to accompany them, would ſecure the whole order in the general eſteem. The hopes of attaining ſome time to this high dignity, would be an incitement to the young nobility to deſerve it; ſo that ſubjects worthy of this higheſt of diſtinctions could never be wanting.

4th, That the country they repreſent would be benefited, will hardly be diſputed. Men who owed their elevation to the approbation of their country, would naturally make it their endeavour to preſerve its good opinion.

The laws of Scotland are totally different from thoſe in England. The whole property of that country is liable to be decided in the houſe of lords; and it cannot be a matter of indifference to the owners of it, whether their judges, in the laſt reſort, be ſuch as have received their approbation. National points occur every day; and ſurely the intereſt of Scotland is more likely to be underſtood, explained, and ſupported by noblemen choſen by the whole body of peers of that country than by any miniſter.—Indeed the whole kingdom of Scotland is as eſſentially intereſted in the proper execution of the article of union relating to their peerage as the peers themſelves. It was what that nation had reaſon to expect at the union; and it is a manifeſt violation of the treaty to deprive it of a free repreſentation, whatever may be the means that are made uſe of to pervert it. England has equal reaſon to complain of this encroachment; while, inſtead of the advantage of having ſixteen choſen and independent noblemen added to the houſe of lords, they feel themſelves loaded with ſixteen men who muſt neceſſarily obey the dictates of a miniſter, and who, indeed, are not to be conſidered as free agents.

5th, No body is ſo much injured by this manifeſt violation of the articles of union as his majeſty.

If ſixteen noblemen were ſent to the houſe of lords by the unbiaſſed choice of their peers, their credit, influence, and abilities, would be a real ſupport to the throne, and would give weight and credit to the meaſures of government.—The intereſt of the peerage is ſo inſeparably connected with the maintenance of the royal authority, that ſuch men would ever be ready and able to enforce it, and to prevent every attempt to impair it: They would be never-failing inſtruments to reconcile the remoteſt parts of the country to the meaſures of adminiſtration: but, as elections are now conducted, nothing is ſo natural as for the people to ſuſpect a bad deſign, where indirect means are employed to diſappoint them of that repreſentation in the houſe of lords they think themſelves intitled to by the articles of the union.

If the above reaſoning is juſt, and all degrees of men, from the king to the peaſant, are intereſted in ſupporting the independency of the Scots peerage, it may ſeem difficult to explain why ſo much pains have been taken to diveſt that order of men in particular of all dignity and privilege; and why the bulk of the people, contrary to cuſtom, have concurred with men in power in their endeavours to degrade the peerage of Scotland.

I acknowledge the ſeeming contradiction: the difficulty, however, may be accounted for, ſo far as relates to the multitude, did not the explanation require a long hiſtorical diſcuſſion.

It is not eaſy to account for, or to juſtify the mazims and conduct of the miniſters, who, by adopting this meaſure, ſeem to have forgot, that, in this government, the dignity of the nobility is the ſureſt ſupport of the crown; and, by abaſing the Scots nobility, they deprive the king of an influence much ſuperior and more effectual than that of the ſtanding army kept up in that country.

It likewiſe ſurpaſſes my abilities to account for the ſubmiſſion of the Scots peers, or by what arts or faſcination they have been brought to acquieſce in the ſurrender of the valuable privilege of being named, and of naming repreſentatives.

Thoſe of the firſt rank and fortune are certainly above the influence of money; and yet they have been ſelf-denied enough to give up the certainty of obtaining the moſt flattering of all diſtinctions, for a ſeat meanly procured, and held at the will of a precarious miniſter.

The inferior Scots peers muſt groſsly miſtake their intereſt, if they imagine any gratuity a miniſter can beſtow is equal, in point of value, to the advantage they would derive from the privilege of raiſing ſixteen of their number to an elevation which their own poſterity might probably one day aſpire to.

If I may be allowed to make uſe of a vulgar compariſon, their conduct ſeems to me as unjuſtifiable, in point of profit, as if a merchant, who had a commodity to diſpoſe of worth a thouſand pounds, would willingly agree to debaſe it, ſo as to be only worth a ſhilling.

Notwithſtanding the picture I have endeavoured to draw, it muſt be allowed there may exiſt a few individuals, who may think it more for their intereſt to have the ſixteen Scots peers nominated by a miniſter, than elected by their country.

Thoſe can only be ſuch of the order as are conſcious of having no chance to be choſen by their fellow peers; but, by taking advantage of the ignorance, weakneſs, or particular means of acceſs to a miniſter, might hope to get themſelves nominated, in defiance to the unbiaſſed voice of their electors.

LIST *of* MEMBERS *of* PARLIAMENT, *elected for* SCOTLAND. [P. 223.]

County of Sutherland, the hon. James Wemyſs of Wemyſs, Eſq;

Perth, the hon. col. James Murray, Eſq;

Argyle, col. Adam Livingſton.

Wigton, capt. Hugh Stewart of Glaſſerton, Eſq;

Dunbarton, Sir Archibald Edmonſtone of Duntreath, Bart.

Bute, the hon. James Stewart, Eſq; ſecond ſon of the earl of Bute.

Orkney, Thomas Dundas, Eſq; younger of Carron-hall.

MARRIAGE.

Nov. 11. At Edinburgh, Allan MacConnochie of Meadowbank, Eſq; to Miſs Betty Welwood, daughter of Robert Welwood of Pitliver, Eſq;

BIRTH.

Nov. 8. At London, her grace the dutcheſs of Mancheſter, of a ſon.

DEATHS.

Aug. 24. At Spaniſh Town, Jamaica, John Robinſon, Eſq; ſecretary to his excellency Sir Baſil Keith.

Sept. 25. At New-York, of a dropſy, in his 63d year, major-gen. John Bradſtreet.

Nov. 6. At London, Thomas Bradſhaw, Eſq; one of the lords of the admiralty, and member in the preſent parliament for Saltaſh.

9. At Congalton, James Hepburn of Keith, Eſq; in the 84th year of his age.

9. At Ballachallan, Perthſhire, David Hume Stewart of Argathy, Eſq;

12. At Dalguiſe, Perthſhire, Mrs Stewart of Dalguiſe.

15. At her houſe in George's Square, Edinburgh, the hon. Mrs Napier, wife of the hon. capt. Charles Napier.

To our CORRESPONDENTS.

THE PLAIN CHRISTIAN'S eſſay is under conſideration.

BRITANNO-AMERICANUS's ſtrictures on liberty are ludicrous, but not therefore convincing: yet, if we can ſpare a corner, he ſhall have it.

G—— D———n's paradoxes no body is concerned to anſwer: Only we may infer from his deſcription, that, if he does not reſide in the country of the Hottentots, he has taken up his abode among a ſpecies of beings whoſe manners nearly reſemble thoſe of the ſavages.

Our young Poet has attempted too long a flight before his wings were fledg'd. He has begun on a wrong plan, and choſen one of the worſt of models for imitation, namely the renowned *Sternhold*.

We are ſorry to learn that the publication of a private letter in our laſt [P. 200.], ſigned C. S. has given offence to the gentleman to whom it was addreſſed. We confeſs it was inſerted without his knowledge or conſent, or of any of his relations; and therefore hope this apology will be accepted of by them for the liberty taken, eſpecially as the ſole purpoſe of inſerting it was in order to ſhow what is expreſſed in the preamble to the letter.